

Kensington & Chelsea News

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TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7 2017

PUB LANDLORD AT YOUR SERVICE

Kensington and Chelsea council has revealed the look of the new North Kensington Library, the planned replacement which is much opposed by many residents of the royal borough. The authority has released an artist's impression, right, of the proposed new building, a stark modernist cube which differs greatly in appearance from the current Victorian library, inset.

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FULL STORY



'Trump gridlock' all set to grip borough

Planned protest against state visit 'would cause most disruption since war'

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

IN protest against President Trump's "Muslim ban", city chiefs are facing pressure to order a "strike" of key staff which would throw his planned state visit into utter chaos.

Labour councillors are calling on Westminster City Council to ban its special events and traffic management teams from helping to plan the controversial visit which is opposed by almost two million people.

Without the expert help of the teams who co-ordinate street closures and traffic flow, Central London could be brought to a standstill which would gridlock the parade planned for Mr Trump and would cause embarrassment to Prime Minister Theresa May.

Although the council is unlikely to bend to the Labour demand, authorities fear that it could now be picked up by council unions who will instruct the vital event planners to "down tools" and cause mayhem for motorists, buses and taxis all across the city.

It is also feared that Tube workers could back the growing protests against the President's visit and call for walk-outs during it, which would combine with non-co-operation by council staff to result in the greatest disruption to London since the last war, with tailbacks and a traffic standstill stretching through Westminster and back through Kensington and Chelsea to the M25.

"Westminster Labour has written to the leader of the council and its chief executive to call on them to seek to block the proposed state

visit by President Trump by withholding council co-operation in planning and managing the event," said the Labour group leader Cllr Adam Hug.

"Any state visit is likely to comprise visits to 10 Downing Street, Buckingham Palace and other Westminster landmarks and would normally be supported by the council's special events and transport management teams. Withholding such support could make the visit difficult to proceed."

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TALK
OF THE
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'Fear-based approach will not help future of carnival'

NOTTING Hill Carnival organiser Toby Laurent Belson has hit out at the "fear-based approach" to determining the event's future.

He said: "I look forward to the authorities involved in the carnival – the councils, police and GLA – reaching out beyond a ridiculously overstretched and under-resourced voluntary carnival committee to the community who know the event, know the culture, know the history and know the area, so that we can work together to make the carnival the best it can be."

"I hope we can all do this based on a positive, uplifting and honest discussion that is true to the culture of the carnival, rather than the hugely negative, threatening and fear-based approach." **SEE PAGE 4**

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posers for
the Queen
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Pioneering dating app gets tough on catfish



Matt Verity, right, with pioneering dating app TrueView's co-founders Damian Mitchell, left, and Andrew Ibbotson

DATING apps have transformed the way that Londoners find love, helping millions of new relationships to blossom.

But they have also become a hotbed for fraud, with hundreds of thousands of people falling victim to 'fake' users on a daily basis.

Matt Verity aims to toughen up the security in our online lives and revolutionise the way we interact with potential partners.

As co-founder of TrueView, a pioneering new dating app devised and created here in London, he hopes to provide a safer environment for the 4,000 people who became victims of online dating fraud in the UK last year.

"The recent news of a new record in online dating fraud is shocking to read, but at the same time not all that surprising," Matt admits.

"Sadly, most online dating websites and apps have virtually no security controls – anyone can set up a fake profile with not much effort."

Dishonesty in relationships has been around much longer than the lifespan of Tinder, the most popular app in the online dating world.

But with the ease of access and lack of security systems in place, online dating has become a breeding ground for lies, scams – and a whole new type of sex offender.

Not only are 'catfish' fraudsters hiding behind fake virtual

personas to trick information out of users, genuine love-seekers are deceiving potential partners about their age, appearance – and even their relationship status.

Matt's brainwave is built on changing our so-called 'swipe culture' for the better by rebuilding the app with tighter security settings.

His design taps into the same technology used by EasyJet and AirBnB to fish out fraudsters.

He says: "We believe that meeting someone online for a potential date should be just as secure as renting your home out to someone you have never met."

On Matt's app, users can decide the level of security they

want – but they are ranked according to how many 'trust points' they have accumulated by sharing information and picking up positive ratings from others.

It filters out those with a very low 'trust score' to block them from interacting with genuine users.

With one in three new relationships now starting out as an online match, Matt's high-tech solution could shed a whole new light on the way we date in 2017.

But aren't these advanced measures a little heavy-handed for an app that is meant to be about fun, flirting and ultimately finding love?

Not so for users, who have reported a 450 per cent increase in online dating crime over the last five years alone.

Beyond the more serious incidents, Matt says, embellishing the truth and doctoring photographs in order to fool your heartthrob is all too easy at the moment.

"TrueView have been in online dating for the last four years and we have stood by our mission to increase awareness and improve the overall security levels of online dating. We feel the new app delivers on this, and more," he explains.

"Online dating app users are tired of interacting with people who are at best not serious about dating and at worst lying about themselves.

"For the first time, here is a dating app that truly addresses the issue and takes security to another level, as it should be."

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Borough set for 'biggest disruption since the war'

FROM PAGE 1

Without the help of the council traffic specialists who also take charge of parking suspensions, health and safety and risk assessments at large events, it is unlikely that the Met could cope – not least as police officers are expected to have their work cut out trying to control crowds of tens of thousands of protesters who will flood Whitehall and the areas around Buckingham Palace and Parliament if the state visit goes ahead.

The protesting councillors say they will drop their “no-assistance” call if the US President reverses a visa ban that they say could “harm” more than 10,000 Westminster residents by preventing them from entering the United States.

Despite assurances from Downing Street and the Foreign Office that the President's ban on London Muslims with dual nationality from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria or Yemen would not be affected unless they were travelling to the US from one of those countries, councillors say: “It is still unclear about how the dual-national issue is being resolved in practice. Many thousands of our local residents who do not have British citizenship will still be impacted by this decision.”

The US Embassy has issued contradictory guidance on telling any national or dual national of the Muslim-majority countries concerned not to attempt to apply for a US visa.

It advised: “Please do not schedule a visa appointment or pay any visa fees at this time. If you already have an appointment scheduled, please do not attend your appointment as we will not be able to proceed with your visa interview.”

Cllr Hug wrote to Westminster council leader Nickie Aiken, appealing: “I’m writing to strongly request that Westminster council withholds its special events and transport co-operation in relation to the planning for the proposed upcoming state visit by President Trump whilst the US administration continues to pursue a



London protests grow against US President Donald Trump, who is set for a state visit

discriminatory visa ban that, as well as being immoral, has a direct and negative effect on Westminster residents.

“The Trump administration’s visa ban directly impacts citizens of Syria, Iraq, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia and Yemen and at present, as has been widely reported, is currently being applied to dual nationals, whilst confusion remains around the status of those who only hold British citizenship but were born in one of these seven countries.

“People from around the world have made Westminster their home. This includes many who originally hail from these seven countries.

“Figures from the 2011 census show that 2,920 Westminster residents were born in Iran and 946 were born in Somalia.

“Exact numbers for the other five countries of birth is not available at Westminster level. However, taking London-wide figures on a proportionate basis would give 4,350 residents from Iraq, 750 from Sudan, 650 from Yemen, 572 from Syria and 252 from Libya.

“While proportions from individual countries are likely to differ, overall this is likely to be an underestimate given Westminster’s high proportion of residents who were born overseas. Therefore more than 10,000 Westminster residents could be harmed by this visa ban.

“This is not a normal state visit by a head of state or government with whose views we disagree.

“It is someone who is making a direct attack on the freedoms of a significant number of Westminster residents.

“Therefore, Westminster council must not use its resources or taxpayers’ money to facilitate a state visit by President Trump whilst this ban remains in place.”

Downing Street’s nerve is being severely tried as every day last week thousands more people signed the petition to Parliament that “Donald Trump should be allowed to enter the UK in his capacity as head of the US government but he should not be invited to make an official state visit because it would cause embar-

assment to Her Majesty the Queen.” Parliament is to debate the petition on February 20.

More pressure was also piled on No 10 at the weekend when protesters from across the capital and the country descended on the US Embassy in Grosvenor Square to furiously demonstrate against President Trump’s immigration policy and his intended visit.

The weekend protest was part of a campaign of opposition organised by the Stop the War Coalition, Stand Up To Racism, Help Refugees Worldwide and the Muslim Association of Britain.

The anti-Trump protests contrast markedly with the time of the 2012 Olympics, when it was all smiles for the star of *The Apprentice* as he rallied support for the London event as he posed for photographs at a promotion in New York’s Times Square.

However, a poll conducted by YouGov last week for *The Times* found 49 per cent of the British public supported Mr Trump’s UK visit, with 36 per cent opposed.

NEWS FROM NICK



Leader of Kensington and Chelsea council, Nick Paget-Brown, speaks up for Prevent

Help avoid a catastrophe

IN the last few years, some 850 British residents are thought to have gone out to Syria and Iraq to join ISIS and other jihadist organisations. Many of those were young people, and several were from Kensington and Chelsea.

Of that 850, we know that about 75 have so far been convicted by the authorities and about 70 are believed to have been killed. Although it remains to be verified, one of those killed is probably Khadiza Sultana, one of the three Bethnal Green teenagers who went to Syria – she was 17 years old. For years now we have seen young British people getting involved in terror plots, domestic and foreign.

There is nothing new about people from ordinary backgrounds and loving homes committing to belief systems that espouse hatred and sanctify violence. In fact, people have been prey to sudden-onset fanaticism at many different times and in many different cultures.

Sophisticated, ruthless people understand this; through experiment, trial and error, they have refined their techniques for recruiting the vulnerable. Some of the material these people produce and make available through social media can be frighteningly compelling and has clearly been effective in the West.

This is the perplexing – some might say terrifying – context in which the government’s Prevent strategy has been operating. Prevent is designed to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It tries to counter terrorist ideology and challenge those who promote it. Crucially, it supports individuals who are vulnerable against becoming radicalised.

But if you think Prevent is only about Islamic extremism you are wrong. There is, for example, a growing problem with the far right, though that liberally applied term doesn’t quite capture the problem. In parts of the UK, extreme ethno-nationalism – such as that espoused by Thomas Mair, the murderer of Jo Cox MP – is now said to be generating more Prevent referrals than Islamism.

Unfortunately Prevent itself has in recent months been under attack. Now it is understandable that members of some of the families and communities from which referrals to Prevent are made are going to be concerned. But those who know and understand the programme recognise that far from being an intrusive instrument of state control, Prevent is actually just another way in which teachers, youth workers, social workers, doctors and other professionals seek to safeguard the vulnerable from harm.

The harm in question is particularly pernicious and needs a suitably sensitive, sophisticated and joined-up response and – by orchestrating the efforts of families, communities and a wide range of professionals – that is what Prevent seeks to provide. And of the referrals they receive, only about 10 per cent are referred on to Channel whose job it is to provide direct support to vulnerable people at risk. That’s right, the great majority of Prevent referrals are actually rejected, though in many cases they are vulnerable in some other way and are referred elsewhere for help. And here’s the thing: there isn’t even anything compulsory about Channel. Its ministrations are entirely voluntary; not exactly the KGB is it?

And who makes referrals to Prevent in the first place? They come from those very same liberal professions and also from desperate families, and worried neighbours and friends.

Predictably, none of this has stopped advocacy and ‘human rights’ groups from attacking Prevent with the claim that it views Muslims through a ‘lens of security’ or that it is a ‘broad-brush policy’ being applied to the entire Islamic community.

Just as predictably, these groups have found a chorus of support among student unions, a certain kind of academic, sections of the Press and politicians who prefer to turn away from uncomfortable realities.

I hope the wider public will treat these attacks as they deserve to be treated. In particular, I hope that worried families will not be swayed. My view is this: if you discover your son or daughter has been up all night watching internet material about Anders Breivik, or behaving videos, on their mobile phone, if his or her behaviour has changed markedly, if he or she seems to have adopted a new world view that is angry and binary, if you are terrified your child might commit crimes against their fellow citizens, end up in prison or dead, then you should talk to those professionals whom in other contexts you trust implicitly, your head teacher, say, your social worker if you have one, or your local children’s services department.

You could even talk to Prevent directly. Far from being a sinister arm of the state, it is simply an alliance of our some of best and finest doing all they can to safeguard our vulnerable people from extremist predators. Contact number is 0208 753 5727.

To contact the leader of the council, Cllr Nick Paget-Brown, email theleader@rbkc.gov.uk

Exhibition details gas mains replacement work

NATIONAL Grid is inviting the local community to a drop-in public exhibition to find out more about the second phase of its essential gas mains replacement work being carried out in Chelsea – and how it will affect traffic in the area.

Between May and September engineers will be replacing ageing metal gas mains with tough new pipes. A spokesman said: “This work will help ensure local people continue to enjoy safe and reliable gas supplies for cooking and heating. To ensure engineers can carry out the work safely and efficiently, traffic management will be needed.”

The westbound lane of Fulham Road will be closed between Beaufort Street and Gunter Grove during certain periods of the work.

Temporary traffic signals will also be in place to minimise the time and extent of the lane closure.

National Grid will be holding a drop-in public exhibition to give the local community the chance to meet the project team, see detailed plans and ask questions.

The exhibition will take place at Small Hall, Chelsea Old Town Hall, Kings Road, SW3 5EE, on Thursday February 16 between 2pm and 8pm.

National Grid project manager Stuart Donaldson said: “The pipes under the Fulham Road have been providing gas to Londoners for more than a century. Like other London infrastructure, they need work to replace and upgrade them.

“Our replacement programme will reduce the amount of repair work on our network along with the congestion this can sometimes cause. It will also help ensure we continue to provide homes and businesses with safe and reliable energy and support London’s economic growth.

“I’d like to thank everyone in Chelsea and Fulham for their

patience during the first phase of our work and I’m inviting local people to come and join us for the public exhibition about the second phase of our programme, where they can find out more about the work and meet our team.

“The gas mains National Grid is replacing are more than 1m in diameter and innovative technology will be used to insert the new pipes into these old mains wherever possible. This will reduce the need for digging and enable the work to be carried out faster.”

For more details, call 0800 389 8261 or email nationalgrid@londongasmains.co.uk.

Fear-based approach will not lead to good decisions

In the light of much debate on the future of Notting Hill Carnival, this newspaper is keen to encourage regular local debate on the internationally famed festival, starting with an opinion column by carnival organiser and well-known North Kensington artist **Toby Laurent Belson**



IN response to the recent report on carnival by the London Assembly's Police and Crime Committee, I would question why it has taken this long for the GLA to offer support to the carnival organisers beyond the stewarding costs.

Why has an offer of further support had to come in the context of policing and crime with all this talk of "violence", "catastrophes" and "tipping points"?

Why has it not come in a positive context around what the carnival community creates year on year? Frankly, it comes over as a threat.

I would also question the way the report was put together. I do not believe it is a well-researched document. There are very few statistics or any robust research. But there is a lot of opinion.

From what I saw of the committee meetings there appeared to be a lot of ignorance and a fair bit of bias going on, as though they had a result in mind. A number of community organisations – including the West London Com-

munity Monitoring Project which I am part of – were consulted, yet feedback that directly addressed the issues of youth violence, event safety and community relations does not seem to have been taken into account at all.

Carnival is an event that is entirely unique in the UK. It is a community event, not a commercial event, and with that comes a need for the geographic, ethnic and cultural communities in which it takes place to receive full and unequivocal support to help make the event a safe, enjoyable and productive time for all.

That support has been sorely lacking over the years. There is no argument about that and it is not a case of simply pumping money into the Notting Hill Carnival Enterprise Trust in an attempt to make it do what certain people want but about supporting a whole community response to the challenges and opportunities that present themselves when more than one million people enter our area.

We all know that a tiny minority attend the carnival with the intention to commit crime. This is true of all large-scale public events, bar none. Look at the evidence from comparable festivals.

Violence at the carnival exists within the context of rising youth crime, rising knife crime and rising violent crime in London. It exists within the context of rising inequality which has been shown by recent research to be the consistent driver for violent crime in societies across the world.

As it stands it is the responsibility of the police to address individual criminal intentions in a strategic and intelligent way with the backing of the borough councils and the GLA.

With the right strategy and support, communities, including the carnival communities, can also play an important part in that.

However, claims that the carnival is some-

how responsible for the behaviour of violent individuals or a culture of knife-carrying youth, in a city and wider society that has fostered that culture through rampantly promoting gross inequality, are misleading and are a damaging attack on an event that is vital to London's culture, wellbeing and future prosperity in the 21st century.

The ignorance and negativity that the African Caribbean community has had to put up with as they lead the UK's largest annual event is depressingly familiar and so again I would question why the GLA have chosen to put out this extremely negative report as their platform for change and why they have sought the very headlines that they claim to want rid of?

To my knowledge, having attended the carnival since I was a small child, enormous crowds have always brought with them the danger of overcrowding. I have been caught up a few times and it is without doubt an unsettling experience to be taken off your feet.

However, this is not new – attendance hit a peak around the late 1990s as far as I know – so I am unsure why all of a sudden we have such hyperbole being put out there. Is the reference to Hillsborough a kind of Freudian slip? Did the families of that tragedy not fight for justice for 26 years and unearth the truth of who was to blame there?

If you want to be honest about why crime and disorder have been the headline story of the carnival for the past three decades, you'd do better to look at the strategy of the authorities and the agenda of the media during that time.

Any discussion that does not take a long, hard look at the racial and political context of the carnival and its mainstream representation is simply not a discussion worth having.

Sadly for the GLA, in this case they appear to have fallen into the same rut and I think Sadiq Khan ought to have a word.

There was a large increase in stewards this year – a doubling of shifts to 2,000 – which the police have praised for enabling officers to concentrate on their role.

Given that one of their main roles is making arrests why would you expect anything other than a rise in arrests? They had more time on their hands to make those arrests and their commanding officer was aggressive in his focus on making arrests.

So basically the police did the job they were tasked to do and I congratulate them in all instances where serious crime and disorder was prevented or where justice was brought to bear.

I look forward to the authorities involved in the carnival – the councils, police and GLA – reaching out beyond a ridiculously overstretched and under-resourced voluntary carnival committee to the community who know the event, know the culture, know the history and know the area, so that we can work together to make the carnival the best it can be.

I hope we can all do this based on a positive, uplifting and honest discussion that is true to the culture of the carnival, rather than this hugely negative, threatening and fear-based approach which is not the atmosphere in which good decisions are made.

● **Do you have a view of the future of Notting Hill Carnival and how it should be organised or changed? Have your say. Email our letters editor – jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk.**



Still 'The Nasty Party'?

TRADITION has it that the Tories of the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea council are patrician and liberal. However, their conduct at a recent council meeting proves otherwise.

In the course of a single meeting they:

a) Refused to continue their funding of a successful programme to stop the genital mutilation of little girls (at a total cost of less than £50,000);

b) Declined to support the expansion of civic and Remembrance Day religious services to include participation by non-Anglican celebrants (bizarrely citing Canon Law as their excuse);

c) Deliberately upended a serious resolution from the opposition that the council takes more of an interest in the foodbanks, which, to the shame of us all, now exist throughout even "the richest local authority in Europe".

The foodbank resolution arose from the news that a foodbank that had been operating in the Redcliffe/Earls Court area has closed and nobody has come forward to replace it.

Labour and Liberal-Democrat councillors worked together to bring forward a resolution which asked the council to address the issue and to look at why resorting to foodbanks remains such a feature of life in 21st-century Britain.

We expected a serious debate and were therefore shocked by the Conservative group's squeamishness about looking modern-day poverty in the eye.

Initially Conservative councillors tried to turn the debate into a discussion of childhood diet and obesity – important matters but not relevant to the motion. When this failed they then deployed Cllr Warwick Lightfoot as a 'wrecking ball' to stop serious discussion.

It took the unfortunate mayor some time to restore order, by which time the serious debate had been broken up.

In speaking to the motion I sought to recommend to the council that we look to our neighbouring council in Hammersmith who, having noted Trussell Trust statistics that the cause of 38 per cent of referrals to foodbanks in London stem directly from benefit delays or changes, have, in an inspired move, located benefits officers at the foodbanks.

And sensible, compassionate Hammersmith have followed this up by placing mental-health practitioners at the foodbanks as well, to tackle another significant reason why people need to resort to foodbanks.

Hammersmith & Fulham council is to be commended for seeking to tackle the major causes of food poverty and not just to ameliorate the symptoms.

By way of contrast, not only is the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea council not prepared to act on any of these important issues but through use of their majority in the council chamber they don't even want to talk about them.

At 8.30pm they therefore ruthlessly halted all debate and adjourned for a hearty supper regardless that, even in the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea, children were going hungry and our council simply does not want to know.

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Council launches new keep-fit initiative for adults

KENSINGTON and Chelsea council has launched a new series of low-cost, keep-fit classes for adults. Sessions include:

Mondays: fitness walk, Holland Park, 12.30pm to 1.15pm, cost £2.10;

Tuesdays: free health walk, Battersea Park, 10.30am to 11.30am, Move and Glow

Venture Centre, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, cost £2;

Wednesdays: buggy workout, Holland Park, 10am to 11am, cost £3;

Thursdays: gym club (instructor-led class), Kensington Leisure Centre, 2pm to 3pm, and line dancing, Chelsea Sports Centre, 2.30pm to 4pm – both cost £2.10;

Fridays: Strictly Dance, Chelsea Sports Centre, 2.30pm to 4pm, and zumba, Kensington Leisure Centre, 2pm to 3pm – both sessions cost £2.10.

For more details, call 020 7938 8182, email sportandleisure@rbkc.gov.uk or follow on Twitter @RBKC_SportsTeam.

NHS chiefs deny 'secret' plans to cut jobs and beds

BY JACK DIXON
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HEALTH bosses have denied drawing up "secret plans" to axe thousands of NHS jobs and remove up to 600 beds from local hospitals under swingeing cuts to health services next year.

The Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust insisted it had "no plans" to reduce jobs or beds in north west London over the next 12 months.

Campaigners suggested last week that drastic measures to slash local services had been deliberately kept out of the public domain.

The Save Our Hospitals group claimed to have uncovered Imperial plans to cut more than 3,600 jobs in 2017-18 alone.

According to campaigners, between 500 and 600 beds could also be withdrawn across the trust's five hospitals, which include Charing Cross and Hammer-smith.

But a spokesman for the trust strongly denied the accusations and reaffirmed Imperial's commitment to local services, adding: "The trust has no plans to reduce jobs or beds in the next financial year."

The claims come amid ongoing



controversy over a proposed shake-up of health services across north west London.

Health chiefs have faced stinging criticism over the local sustainability and transformation plan – a key document setting out how cash-strapped services will be restructured.

Senior clinicians say the STP will make sure appropriate care is provided for everyone in the borough.

But critics claim the plan is a smokescreen for NHS cuts – and the potential closure of Charing Cross Hospital.

Last week, campaigners suggested that around 50,000 planned hospital admissions and more

than 220,000 outpatient appointments would be cut across the trust by 2020-21.

They also argued efforts to reduce attendances at A&E departments would be ineffective in the face of rising demand.

Save Our Hospitals claimed to have uncovered the figures from a freedom of information request that revealed details of a delivery plan for the STP compiled in October last year.

Save Our Hospitals chairman Merril Hammer said: "These plans threaten patients' lives. We need more beds and more staff, not ongoing cuts."

In a strongly worded rebuke,

Imperial denied the claims but said managers were continuing to identify areas for "cost improvement".

The spokesman also stressed that Charing Cross Hospital would not be downgraded to local-hospital status over the next five years.

"Any proposed changes to services arising from this process will be subject to extensive engagement with staff, patients and stakeholders in advance of any formal proposal or decision," said the spokesman.

"There is a clear commitment in the STP that there will be no changes to Charing Cross A&E unless and until such time as out-of-hospital services have adequately reduced demand for acute hospital services.

"As such, the STP, which covers the period up until April 2021, does not include the implementation of plans for Charing Cross to become a local hospital or for any reduction in its bed numbers."

● Dr Tracey Batten, Imperial's chief executive, tendered her resignation after three years at the trust last month. She said she wanted to return home to Australia to care for her elderly parents.

Be woke about kids

A LONDON translation service has created a parents' guide to understanding their teenagers, with a digest of the new slang words that are incomprehensible to anyone over the age of 18.

Following research among the capital's teens, LanguageLine has produced a directory of the street speak of 2017 which is coming soon to a takeaway near you.

A spokesman said: "Language evolves as time goes on and every year a new batch of words and phrases appear which have sprung from youth culture and social media. LanguageLine has carried out research to find out what the words on the street are going to be this year and to help parents wanting to figure out what their teen kids are saying."

New buzzwords include: **Ship:** An abbreviation of the word "relationship". The word describes approval of fictional or desired romances. How to use it: "They're so cute together, I totally ship them."

FR (for real): A way to agree with what someone has just said. How to use it: "I'm loving the new box set on Netflix right now, FR".

Low key: This can be used in

place of the formerly popular phrase "down low", meaning something you don't want everyone to know about. How to use it: "I low key tripped walking into Waitrose today." Or: "I am low key addicted to Honey G."

High key: The expression of favouring something. How to use it: "High key love Ed Balls on SCD."

Aesthetic: The new word for "vibe", updated for today's visual world where everything is about appearance. How to use it: "I'm obsessed with Kim K's new Insta aesthetic."

Savage: Meaning vicious, or wounding, in an exaggerated way. How to use it: "The babysitter cancelled on us at last minute, savage." Or: "The shots we did last night were savage."

Woke: The more "woke" someone is, the more they understand about a topic or a person. It is most often used to describe a man who is also a feminist. How to use it: "Love hearing Daniel Radcliffe praise the HeForShe campaign, he's so woke."

Live: When something is so good, you can't wait for it. How to use it: "I live for those memes." Or: "I'm living for that gig."

Travel agent offering luxury holiday to 20 cities – for £11m

TIRED of Butlins this year? Why not take the summer holiday which is a snip at £11 million?

A London luxury travel agent is offering those with more money than most a three-week trip to 20 cities in a private airliner, for only £550,000 a day.

For the oligarch with 50 friends, the travel boutique DreamMaker has teamed up with the billionaires' favourite online shop, VeryFirstTo, to provide a trip around the globe aboard a privately outfitted Boeing 767.

"This truly remarkable voyage is styled as a milestone celebration for the client together with friends and family flying in tandem on a second Boeing Business Jet. Offered at \$13,875,000 (£11,051,437), the unprecedented experience is slated for August, covering 20 cities in 20 days," said a spokesman.

"To ensure the utmost comfort for its guests, Passport to 50 boasts a one-to-one ratio of guest to staff, with a cast of 50 hand-picked professionals, each experts in their respective fields.

"Highlights in the air include a \$500,000 charity poker tournament

with the world's top-ranked poker player, a fashion show, and a Master Sommelier.

"Guests will also enjoy a carousel of fascinating personalities that "hop on and hop off" various legs of the trip including a former commander of US forces, a previous chef to the Queen of England and an American baseball legend."

The holiday which is set to beat a weekend in a chalet in Bognor Regis, also includes "an exceptional experience with a commanding general and 50 of his Gurkha officers in Kathmandu", the Palio horse race in Siena, a private concert with trumpet-player Chris Botti under the stars in Marrakech and the chance to go diving for pearls in the South Sea.

The getaway will also provide a special something for mile-high drinks that is a cut above usual holiday cocktail umbrellas.

"The World of Diamonds Group is creating a 18-karat gold swizzle stick for each guest set with white and blue diamonds worth a total of \$1 million. Crafted into a spinning globe atop the sticks are 20 white sparklers, each representing every city landing of Passport to 50," said the spokesman.

Seventy per cent of London lesbians are mentally ill, reveals Assembly report

SADIQ Khan has been urged to provide better mental-health support for LGBT+ people after a shock new report has revealed that 70 per cent of London's lesbians suffer mental illness and more than half of the city's transgender people have considered killing or attempted to kill themselves.

The disturbing report from the London Assembly's health committee reveals that more than 40 per cent of gay Londoners endure mental-health problems and more than 80 per cent of transgender people suffer from depression.

The report – titled *I Will Survive?* – cites bullying and abuse from other members of the public as a major cause of mental illness in the LGBT+ community.

"Being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or non-binary, intersex, queer or gender fluid is not in itself a mental-health issue. But the extent to which people are accepted and included in society for who they are can have a profound effect on mental health and wellbeing," warns the health committee.

"One in six LGBT+ people experience homophobic, biphobic or transphobic hate crime at some point in their life. This can come from wider society or from within LGBT+ communities themselves. Experience or fear of hate crime can have a lasting, cumulative negative effect on mental health."

"According to MIND, the mental-health charity, 42 per cent of gay men and 70 per cent of lesbians experience mental-health problems – and bisexual people have been found to have even worse rates of mental-health problems, including high rates of depression, anxiety, self-harm and suicidality, than lesbians and gay men."

The report adds: "Mental ill-health is preventable. Waiting until people reach mental-health crisis is unacceptable, ineffective and expensive."

"There needs to be a far greater emphasis on promoting mental wellbeing for LGBT+ people. Stigma and discrimination towards LGBT+ people is a double burden – it contributes to poor mental health and prevents people from accessing support early."

"Improving self-esteem and reducing incidences of discrimination are key to improving the mental health of LGBT+ people. LGBT+ people, like everyone else, experience better mental health when they are able to be open about their identity and are accepted and understood by wider society."

"So improving the visibility and inclusion of LGBT+ people should be a key priority for the mayor. It is vital that mental-health resilience is built early in life; 50 per cent of mental-health problems are established by the age of 14, and 75 per cent by age 21."

"Yet 55 per cent of younger LGB people experience homophobic bullying in Britain's schools, which can contribute to symptoms consistent with depression. More than 80 per cent of trans young people have experienced name-calling or verbal abuse; 60 per cent have experienced threats and intimidation; and 35 per cent have been physically assaulted."

Up to one in 10 Londoners, more than 800,000 people, identifies as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and/or other definitions of sexual orientation or gender identity.

The report recommends: ● Hospital staff and GP surgeries, including frontline staff, should be more LGBT+ friendly with improved equality and diversity training; ● The mayor should lead a public campaign to tackle discrimination against LGBT+ people in London and explicitly recognise the different groups within the LGBT+ umbrella; ● In developing the mental-health roadmap, the mayor and the London Health Board should ensure that the specific mental-health needs of LGBT+ people are explicitly set out; ● The scale of the issue within LGBT+ communities should be properly assessed.

Dr Onkar Sahota, chairman of the health committee, said: "At the start of LGBT History Month we want this call heard loud and clear by the mayor. Action is needed now to tackle the urgent mental-health needs of LGBT+ people."

"Time has run out for some and the mayor needs to take firm and decisive action on his mental-health promises to LGBT+ Londoners and find ways he can support better mental health for those who have struggled against the system for long enough."

Brexit will cost capital £600m and many job losses, claims mayor

SADIQ Khan has warned that the Brexit cost to London will mean a loss of at least £600 million and threatens to cause the loss of many jobs.

The mayor of London is calling on the government to explain exactly how the loss of £11.5 million a week in Euro cash is going to be made up.

At a meeting of the London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP), which is responsible for delivering economic growth across the capital and ensuring that opportunities are open to all Londoners, the mayor blew the whistle on the loss of "crucial funds".

"LEAP, London's local enterprise partnership,

oversees the investment of £600 million from the European Structural and Investment Funds into skills, employment and enterprise initiatives across the capital, said the mayor's spokesman.

"However, in the aftermath of Brexit, the future of this crucial funding is now in doubt."

The loss of the funding will blow a giant hole in the investment in jobs and the mayor is demanding that the government makes up replacements funds for London.

Mr Khan said: "Without this funding, many key schemes – which currently benefit Londoners and our economy – would simply not be possible. That's why it's so concerning that in the aftermath of

Brexit, the future of this vital investment is now in doubt.

"So I'm calling on the government to make an urgent decision on how it will replace this investment and ensure the successor funding streams are devolved to London so that we can spend the money where it's needed – delivering more opportunities for Londoners."

"This is crucial because as we work to mitigate against the potential negative impacts of Brexit, these funding streams will form a part of a wider approach to devolution that will be pivotal to London's industrial strategy and success over the decades ahead."

Council's vision of new library – with more space and easier access

BY GEOFF BAKER

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KENSINGTON and Chelsea Council has revealed the look of the new North Kensington Library, the planned replacement which has been opposed by many residents of the royal borough.

The council has released an artist's impression of the proposed new building, a stark modernist cube which differs greatly in appearance from the current Victorian library, which is to be leased by the council to the £5,800-a-year Notting Hill Prep School.

A planning application for a new North Kensington Library and Youth Centre has been submitted by the council – and it is expected to be fiercely fought by residents who have staged numerous protests to keep the old library, which was opened in 1851.

The council says highlights for the new building, which it says has been designed to be “as attractive as possible”, include:

- A larger library floor space – 829 sq m, compared with a current area of 580 sq m, to accommodate an improved selection of books, magazines and newspapers, a reading room and informal activity space.
- The new library arranged all on the ground floor making it easier for wheelchair users, buggies and people with reduced mobility to navigate.
- More meeting rooms and spaces for adult education classes and local organisations to use.
- More quiet study space and a dedicated children's library.
- Comfortable seating and natural light throughout.
- Excellent Wi-Fi and IT;
- Access to refreshment facilities;
- Public toilets with baby change facilities;
- An improved youth centre;
- A rooftop games area for sport and recreation, with dedicated changing facilities available for building users and the wider community;
- A range of energy efficiency measures to reduce maintenance and running costs.



Kensington and Chelsea council has released an artist's impression of the proposed new building, a stark modernist cube which differs greatly in appearance from the current Victorian library, inset left

ning costs.

The council consulted widely on the emerging proposals in 2016 through a series of drop-in events, workshops and exhibitions, often facing livid protests that the old building is to be lost as a library.

The outcome of the planning application is expected to be decided by the local planning authority on Thursday 30 March.

“If granted planning permission, construction of the new building should start during summer 2017, with the new library opening by 2020. The

current library would remain open until the new one, just 50 metres away on Lancaster Road, is ready for use,” said a Council spokeswoman.

“Designed by architects Piercy & Company and project-managed by the Mace Group, the proposed new North Kensington Library would not only be bigger and better than the current building, but it has also been designed to include additional commercial space that can be rented out to provide much-needed income to help the Council protect its vital frontline services.

“The commercial space has been fully and openly marketed and generated much interest from a range of educational businesses; the Council's Cabinet is due to decide on the new

tenant for the commercial space next month.”

The Council spokeswoman added, “The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea has a strategy to ensure its library services are as attractive and accessible as possible.”

The planning application is available online at the planning section of the council's website www.rbkc.gov.uk/planning. For more information on the new North Kensington Library and Youth Centre visit www.nklibrary.org.uk

Do you like the look of the new North Kensington Library? Have your say to our Letters Editor Jack Dixon. Email jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

Grants tackle disadvantage

THE City of London Corporation's charitable funder, City Bridge Trust, has awarded grants totalling £1,546,084 to charities and organisations tackling inequality and disadvantage across London this month.

The grants include £102,000 to the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) for the salary of a Stepping Stone Homes Manager who will provide refuge for women whose relationship with someone in the military has broken down; £200,000 to Bipolar UK towards the costs of its eCommunity for individuals and families affected by bipolar; and £107,114 to Upper Room towards the salary and project costs of its UR4Driving Project, which helps ex-offenders improve their employment chances.

City Bridge Trust also announced the award of a further £150,000 to London Youth for the continuation of its London Youth Quality Mark Awards scheme until 2018.

Alison Gowman, Chairman of the City of London Corporation's City Bridge Trust Committee, said: “It is fantastic to be able to announce that over £1.5million of grants has been awarded to such a wide variety of charities this month. We are committed to supporting Londoners to make their city a fairer place to work and live.

“We fund a broad range of work focused on tackling disadvantage in London: from improving Londoners' mental health to services that strengthen London's voluntary sector. City Bridge Trust awards around £20 million annually to charities across London to support and develop their services which are helping hundreds of thousands of people every year.”

Michael Buraimoh, Operations Director at Upper Room, added: “We are delighted to have been awarded a three-year grant for our UR4Driving project.”

Funding for healthy living

EVERYONE Active, the Westway Trust's new sports operating partner, are offering to give anyone who receives a Westway Trust sports bursary free membership to Westway Sports & Fitness for a year.

The sports bursaries are awards of up to £500 made to anyone who wants to take part in sports or fitness but finds it unaffordable. They offer training, coaching and education bursaries to people living in Kensington and Chelsea, with particular emphasis on North Kensington.

“The free fitness memberships from Everyone Active are worth up to £400 and effectively double the value of the bursaries,” said a Westway spokesman.

Stephen Wren, Westway Director of Sport, said, “I'm delighted that we're able to add so much value to the sports bursaries scheme. We entered into a partnership with Everyone Active because we believe that together we can do even more to promote healthy active communities and as well as agreements like this, together we'll be investing millions in improving the facilities which grant recipients will now have access to.”

The bursaries programme is open to applications until the end of March 2017 and details of this scheme and the Tim Davis Scholarship of up to £5,000 for exceptional young athletes can be found at the website www.westway.org/sporting-grants

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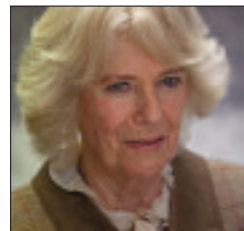
Duchess backs animal rescuers

THE Duchess of Cornwall is to be the new Royal Patron of Battersea Dogs & Cats Home.

The Duchess, who has rehomed two dogs from Battersea, is to take over from The Queen, who recently retired from a number of patronages.

Battersea's Chief Executive Claire Horton said: “Battersea has long considered The Duchess of Cornwall to be a very close and dear friend and a huge supporter of our work, so it's absolutely wonderful to now welcome Her Royal Highness as our new Royal Patron.

“Having rehomed two Battersea dogs, Beth and Bluebell, and visited us on numerous occasions, we feel The Duchess is already part of our special Battersea family and we look forward with such enthusiasm to an even closer connection in the years to come.”



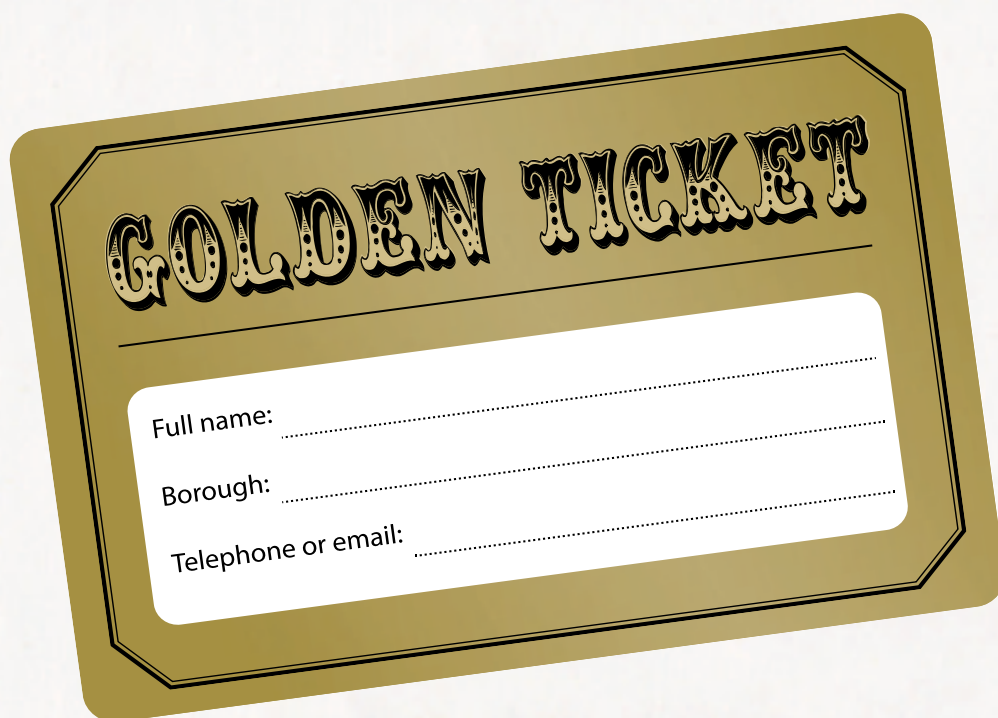
The Duchess of Cornwall is a great animal lover

The Duchess of Cornwall's relationship with Battersea stretches back to October 2010, when she visited the charity's iconic centre to open its state-of-the-art Cattery, in its 150th anniversary year.

A huge animal-lover and supporter of rescue dogs, she chose Battersea when she rehomed two Jack Russell Terriers - Beth in August 2011 and Bluebell in September 2012.

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Geoff Baker *get tough on diesels*

Although my partner drives a diesel, I am overjoyed to hear that Westminster City Council is to introduce a new surcharge penalising her and other such motorists for polluting the city.

But my complaint is that the pioneering council, the first in Britain to bring in a 'D-charge' on diesel drivers wanting to park in central London, is currently proposing to limit it to an extra £2.45 an hour.

Why not make it an extra £20 an hour? That would make them choke as greatly as they make us gasp.

There are lives at risk here – official estimates are that 9,500 Londoners are annually sent to an early grave by the toxic air worsening their asthma, lung and heart conditions, although unofficial analysts have suggested that the figure may be as many as 15,000 a year.

London needs to get real and to get tough. It is simply unacceptable that cyclists, pedestrians, children in school playgrounds and anyone living near a busy road are in effect committing a drawn-out suicide forced upon them simply because London is #openfortraffic.

These diesel drivers, have they not heard of trains? Why is it an absolute necessity for them to drive around London when there are myriad alternative methods of transport that don't



More than 330,000 vehicles enter the congestion charge zone every day

kill thy neighbour so effectively?

Because there aren't. I have no doubt that many drivers who now motor into central London do so because they have little choice – thanks to the months of train and Tube strikes. And until we start using the railways, when they run, and the Thames for transporting freight more effectively, many delivery drivers have little choice either.

More than 330,000 vehicles enter the congestion charge zone every day, and it's a bit of a surprise that they don't rename it "the consumption zone" as the diesel engine is now up there with TB as a good means of putting us in a wooden box.

Although we are meant to be

a modern city, we have allowed a Victorian indifference to our filthy air. The satanic mills have been replaced by the satanic miles and it is an absolute shocker that in this day and age the Mayor of London has to issue killer air alerts for Londoners to stay off the busier streets and rush back inside with their baby buggies.

Clearly, judging by the action that he has already taken and is admirably proposing to take against the pollution, few are more acutely horrified by the state of the air than Sadiq Khan. And with good reason; when he was a nipper he had good, clean, healthy lungs. Now, as a result of living in town, he suffers from asthma.



It's not funny, asthma, it's not something to be idly accepted as just a way of things. Anyone who has witnessed any unfortunate in the wretched throes of an asthma attack will never forget the experience. It is terrifying to see, let alone to endure, as for many very scary minutes there seems to be nothing that you can do to help.

And, of course, it is one of the worst ways to die. But people, including children, are dying from asthma attacks because of London's air, that is a dreadful reality.

Many others are being made deranged by the traffic pollution which scientists have now discovered increases the risk of dementia by 12 per cent.

The actor Nigel Havers was on Radio 4's premier news programme, PM, last week, talking of his shock at the number of cars that he encounters on his daily walk from South Ken to the West End which are parked up with their engines running. He said many of these offenders are big gas-guzzling limos, waiting outside embassies and posh shops. We've all seen them.

We've also all seen the owners of Chelsea tractors, the parents who feel it is essential that they drive their kids to school in large 4x4s; because you really need an all-terrain, four-wheel drive in order to negotiate your way round the not-exactly-mountainous Sloane Square.

Westminster Council has also admirably introduced a new scheme through which 'air marshals' will instruct drivers who leave their engines running when stuck in traffic to switch off or face a £40 fine after they have been warned three times for the health offence.

Like the 'D-charge', it's a good idea, but it's not enough of a good idea. Never mind the three warnings, it should be perfectly possible in this modern day and age to inform all motorists that if they don't turn off the engine when at a standstill then they will be fined, right there, right then, £400.

It would be a drastic step but diesel engines are killing us and it is no longer enough for the authorities to take a "Er, sorry, would you mind terribly not ending our lives?" approach. We need to get hard.

I very much hope that Sadiq, who has been excellent so far in his uphill struggle to try clean-up the air, now listens to the many voices raised and railing against the motoring polluters and that he comes down on them like a ton of bricks.

Use your executive powers, Mr Mayor, to extend the example of Westminster Council to every borough authority in the city, increase pollution fines so that they are absolutely punitive, make the London motorist as much of a damned pariah as us smokers. One more life lost is just unacceptable, let alone another 9,500.

London to enjoy golden era of business with Pakistan

THE Lord Mayor of London is predicting "a new golden era of Pakistani-British relations" after visiting Pakistan to strengthen trade links between London, the world's leading financial centre, and Pakistan, which has blossoming banking, legal, and services industries.

Alderman Dr Andrew Parmley, the Lord Mayor, met business and government leaders in Karachi and Islamabad, to discuss how the City of London can work more closely with Pakistan as it develops its international presence in financial and professional services. The visit also supported the 70th anniversary of British-Pakistani relations, a new initiative launched in Islamabad.

The Lord Mayor Parmley, the 689th incumbent of a role that dates back centuries, is a spokesman for the UK's financial and professional services industries, and is the leader of London's 'Square Mile' or financial district.

He met with a number of senior industry figures in Karachi, including representatives from Meezan Bank and the State Bank of Pakistan. While in Karachi, the Lord Mayor also hosted a number of round table discussions on debt markets, education, and fintech.

After traveling to Islamabad, the Lord Mayor met with several government ministers, holding substantive conversa-

tions on how the City of London's financial and professional services industries can help the development of world-class infrastructure, alongside CPEC, in Pakistan.

The Lord Mayor also raised the subject of education and training at an education roundtable attended by government ministers and representatives from Pakistani universities. The Lord Mayor wrapped up his visit in Pakistan with a meeting with the Chair of the Federal Board of Investment, and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, Dr Miftah Ismail.

The Lord Mayor was accompanied on his trip by a business delegation from British businesses looking to establish, or expand their operations in Pakistan, including Senior Manager Ali Abdul Aziz of Deloitte, Managing director of Mo-moEssa Capital Management Farhan Rizvi, and Garbhan Shanks, Partner at global law firm Michelmores. The Lord Mayor was also accompanied by David Clark, Head of the Economic Crime Directorate at the City of London Police, the UK's leading agency on cyber-crime and its investigation.

Speaking on his visit, the Lord Mayor said: "My trip to Pakistan has been a great success, full of productive meetings and roundtables. I enjoyed seeing first-hand the famous Pakistani hospitality, and I'm

sure a new golden era of Pakistani-British relations is beginning.

"There are many opportunities for British companies in Pakistan, and I look forward to speaking to businesses in London to promote all that Pakistan has to offer. Following our vote to leave the European Union, reconnecting with growing countries around the world is now more important than ever.

"As the world's leading financial centre, I believe that London has much to offer to Pakistani businesses looking to expand domestically, and overseas."

Commenting on the Lord Mayor's visit, British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Thomas Drew said: "The visit of the Lord Mayor of the City of London shows how much of a priority Pakistan and its vibrant economy is for the UK.

"The Lord Mayor is one of the most senior figures in British business and represents the world's biggest financial hub. British companies are recognizing the growth in the economy in Pakistan – and its potential – and this will help launch a stronger trade relationship in 2017.

"Last week we launched our year of celebrations of 70 years of British Pakistani relations, and we are delighted that the Lord Mayor has visit to support our relationship."

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Study into new Centre for Music

UP to £2.5 million in funding to complete a detailed business case for a new Centre for Music in the Square Mile has been given the go-ahead.

The City of London Corporation's Court of Common Council has voted to provide the money.

At the heart of the vision for the Centre for Music, originated by partners - the Barbican Centre, London Symphony Orchestra and Guildhall School of Music & Drama in 2014 - are proposals for a world-class concert hall for the digital age and an ambitious, educational offer to bring music-making to the widest possible audience.

"The business case will test whether it is viable to build the centre on part of the 140-150 London Wall site, which currently houses the Museum of London and Bastion House," said a spokesman.

"The proposal to create a Centre for Music was the subject of a Government-funded feasibility study in 2015. This was followed by funding for business case work. However, in November 2016, the Government announced that it was withdrawing its funding for the detailed study.

"The detailed business case will be completed by December 2018 and will be subject to periodic reviews by the City prior to this date, and a final decision on whether to go forward with the project will then be taken by the City of London Corporation."

The preferred site for the Centre for Music, which the City of London Corporation has agreed in principle to make available, is currently occupied by the Museum of London, but will become available when the Museum of London fulfils its ambition to move to a larger site at West Smithfield.

Threat to hospitality sector that depends on EU workers

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

SCORES of Westminster's cafes, hotels and restaurants are set to go bust and will shut as foreign workers are sent packing by the Government's new hard line on Brexit.

City Hall chiefs have been warned that Westminster's status as a hospitality hub will be devastated as a consequence of the people's vote on leaving the EU.

Following Prime Minister Theresa May's announcement of a 'hard-Brexit' last week, worried members of the London Assembly Economy Committee heard that cafes, hotels and other central London businesses that depend on foreign staff will be wrecked.

The committee is now calling on the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, to investigate how to fill the gap in staff from EU nations.

"The city's hospitality and tourism sector is labour intensive, requiring a high volume of people. A significant proportion - 15 per cent - of the industry's workforce comes from the EU," said a City Hall spokesman.

"The committee heard that small and medium-sized businesses will face closure if they cannot access the workers they need, and quickly, to sustain work flow from the EU."



Many of the capital's hotels, restaurants and cafes rely on EU workers, who are under threat in a hard Brexit

Ufi Ibrahim, Chief Executive of the British Hospitality Association, said: "If there is no replacement of the EU workforce that we are able to access moving forward, then the risk would be that the majority of businesses who aren't able to command very high prices or very high volumes would be at risk of ceasing their operations."

"There would be a risk to many of the artisan cafes and restaurants, the modern leisure society that we have come to know and demand would be restricted. The offerings would be restricted."

Fiona Twycross, Chair of the Economy Committee, said: "If there are changes to migration policy and access to EU workers is lost, it's the hospitality busi-

nesses in the middle, which are at greatest risk.

"We don't want to see successful hotels, cafes and restaurants closing and choices limited, because these businesses can't access the right people. We need to get migration policy right, so London's economy is not adversely affected."

"With the risks posed by leaving the EU to London's workforce, it is crucial that both employers and the Mayor look at how we are going to fill the gaps in jobs and skills."

"The hospitality sector is working hard to prepare for the future vacancies, but we know that further investment in training is essential for the longer-term prospects of this sector."

Aliens set for a comeback

A 90's craze is set to make a comeback in a big way thanks to a new toy egg - that hatches into a three-foot alien.

The growing aliens, just like their ancestors that hit the shelves 20 years ago, come in an egg and actually 'come alive' when put in water.

Toymaker H. Grossman unveiled the small eggs at the Toy Fair 2016 in Kensington. When placed in water they burst and grow up to 36 inches long - a far cry from the original toys which did not grow at all.

Over 22 million Alien Eggs have been sold since their launch in 1999, when they shot to fame, winning Toy Craze of the Year. The smaller eggs are priced at £0.99, with the larger models hitting the shelves at £9.99.

Martin Grossman, whose parents founded the company in 1945, said:

"We've gone very heavy with the aliens again, which we've been doing since 1999 and have sold 22 million units. Kids love sticky, gooey, spudgy things, and they're fun and don't cost a lot of money."

"They range from handheld size, to ones which are three to four inches, to our new model which grows out of the 16-inch egg up to three feet."



What's a typical day at Ellesmere House? Catching up over afternoon tea



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Stroke awareness

Thursday 16th February 2017

2pm - 4pm

Free event

Ellesmere House is pleased to welcome Barry Coppock from the Stroke Association who will give advice and guidance, including caring for a loved one recovering from a stroke and the resources available.

For more information or to book your free place please RSVP on **0333 434 3025** or email **lorelei.shepherd@careuk.com**

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Points of view

Have your say

Email Jack Dixon
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk



Hammersmith and Fulham council owns 423 empty garages

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Sainsbury's Store	38 Stratton Street	Mayfair	W1J 8LT
Sainsbury's Store	15-17 Tottenham Court Road	Central London	W1T 1BJ
Co-op	504-506 Harrow Road	Paddington	W9 3QA
Tesco Classic Metro	22-25 Bedford Street	London	WC2E 9ED
Co-op	Golden Cross House	London	WC2R 0RG
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Pimlico Library	Lupus Street	Pimlico	SW1V 3EY

Kensington & Chelsea NEWS pick up points			
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Notting Hill Gate Library	1 Pembridge Square	Notting Hill	W2 4EW
Kensal Library	20 Golborne Road		W10 5PF
North Kensington Library	108 Ladbroke Grove	Kensington	W11 1PZ
Brompton Library	210 Old Brompton Road	London	SW5 0BS
The Tabernacle, Notting Hill	35 Powis Square	Notting Hill	W11 2AY
Chelsea Library	Chelsea Old Town Hall	Chelsea	SW3 5EZ
Chelsea Sports Centre	Chelsea Manor Street	Chelsea	SW3 5PL
Portobello Rd Market Office	72 Tavistock Road		W11 1AN

Fulham Chronicle pick up points		
Fulham Library	598 Fulham Road	SW6 5NX
Avonmore Lib. & Neighbourhood Ctr	North End Crescent	W14 8TG
Fulham Good Neighbours	70 Rosalind Road	SW6 7QT

Hammersmith CHRONICLE pick up points		
The Grove Neighbourhood Centre	7 Bradmore Park Road	Hammersmith W6 0DT
Hammersmith Library	Shepherd's Bush Road	W6 7AT

Shepherd's Bush CHRONICLE pick up points		
Westfield Library	6 Wood Lane	W12 7BF
Askew Road Library	87-91 Askew Road	W12 9AS

EU student travel

WE have recently seen the 30th anniversary of the EU Erasmus+ programme. Since it began over 200,000 British students have benefited from the exchange programme, allowing them to study, train and gain work experience abroad.

Theresa May has said that after Brexit she will try to attract the "brightest and the best" to study in Britain, but made no mention of helping British students to continue to have the opportunity to study abroad.

Erasmus has been one of the glowing successes from our EU membership. It would be a devastating tragedy if this was lost as the Government seeks to unpick our relationship with Europe.

We must protect these opportunities for a generation who didn't vote to lose them.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM
Liberal Democrat London Assembly Member

Empty garages

A FREEDOM of information request from Property Partner has found that Hammersmith and Fulham council owns 423 empty garages – a third of the total number of its garages.

The average garage size is 170 square feet. The average size of a one-bedroom flat is 500 square feet. So that is 71,910 square feet of empty garage space, equivalent to 144 homes.

It may well be that in some cases replacing garages with new homes would not be viable. On the other hand, these figures only allow for bungalows. Often, of course, it would be perfectly viable to replace a row of garages with two, three or four-storey housing.

The council also rents out another 179 garages privately – that provides a useful source of revenue for the council. But would it not be better to convert some of those garages into homes too?

Also, any of the 423 empty garages that can't be replaced with homes should be rented out privately. The present mismanagement is a terrible waste of resources.

Councillor Harry Phibbs
Conservative,
Ravenscourt Park ward

Flight paths

MOVING to restrict night flights won't help the schools under new Heathrow flights paths, as aircraft noise is expected to affect 43,000 school children.



Thousands protested against Britain leaving the European Union, marching from Park Lane to Westminster on July 2 last year

I am renewing my call on the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, to influence the Government to make sure alternatives to yet more expansion are explored.

Annually there are around 10 million seats of unused capacity on the Eurostar and a frequent flyer levy could help use existing runways more efficiently.

The Mayor should, for example, convince the Government to renegotiate the current Eurotunnel fee structure that means both trains and passengers pay arbitrary fees and makes international train travel so expensive.

There's no way there should be a third runway when air pollution in Heathrow already exceeds legal limits and at least 100,000 new people are expected to be adversely affected by the blight of aircraft noise.

Instead of dramatically cutting carbon emissions to protect ourselves from dangerous climate change, the Government is accelerating this process and with a new runway that makes a mockery of their ratification of the Paris Agreement.

Transport for London estimates that £18 billion of investment will be needed to upgrade the transport infrastructure around an expanded Heathrow with just £1 billion coming from Heathrow.

The Mayor must explain how TfL's finances will cope with the additional pressure if this does happen.

He should also set out how he will ensure the clean air savings his ultra-low emissions zone might bring can be safeguarded against emissions from Heathrow expansion.

Caroline Russell AM
Green Party London Assembly Member

Brexit debate

I AM a passionate pro-European, who worked hard for the Remain campaign last summer and still believe our prosperity, security, culture and values are strengthened by close relations with the rest of Europe, including through membership of the EU.

70 per cent of the voters of Hammersmith voted to Remain. I have always thought my first loyalty is to my constituents and thousands have lobbied me to vote against the [Article 50] trigger.

I also represent – though they could not vote in the referendum or general election – the 15 per cent of Hammersmith residents who are citizens of other EU states, and who are being shamefully held at ransom by Theresa May's Government.

The referendum result was close – we should not ignore the 48 per cent who voted Remain any more than the 52 per cent who voted to Leave.

Just as governments – and MPs – represent everyone, not just those who voted them in, so we should now be trying to find a way forward that (almost)

your letters and emails

everyone can live with.

But none of these is the reason I chose to vote against triggering Article 50.

Yes, the referendum was a deeply flawed process with a narrow victory for one side, whose promises – most infamously the £350 million a week for the NHS – were abandoned as soon as the result came in.

But no election is perfect, and issues of misrepresentation, turnout and size of mandate are often prayed in aid by the losing side.

The Supreme Court was right to give the decision on starting the exit process to Parliament rather than let Theresa May – unelected as PM – use medieval prerogative powers to make herself the sole arbiter.

But Parliament must have primary regard to the result of the referendum, the purpose of which was to express the view of the British people on our membership of the EU.

What convinced me to vote against the trigger was the decision by Theresa May in her speech two weeks ago, repeated and expanded on since, that this would be not only the first but the final chance to influence not just whether but on what terms the UK left the EU.

I raised this issue with Theresa May at Prime Minister's Questions and her answer made it clear that she was not interested in consulting either Parliament or the British people on the final Brexit deal.

We are being asked to accept whatever deal Mrs May negotiates, with no alternative – except no deal at all. We cannot say, 'sorry that is a terrible deal, go back and try again'. Or, as a final step, if she really is incapable of safeguarding our future, putting the decision on whether to go through with Brexit back to the electorate.

This is not about re-running the referendum of last June, it is about giving Parliament or the people a say in the future of the country.

It is the least we deserve. Anything else is not just arrogant, it is fundamentally undemocratic.

Forces on the right of politics, in the Conservative Party as well as UKIP and the far right, have long dreamed of rolling back the welfare state, employment rights and even the NHS.

They also have a barely disguised distaste for the inclusive, tolerant and diverse society that places like Hammersmith and Shepherd's Bush, indeed most of London, represent.

A hard Brexit, which is



Prime Minister Theresa May has come in for criticism from Hammersmith MP Andy Slaughter, who accuses her of ignoring Parliament on the final Brexit deal

now the only Brexit on offer, is also about following this agenda. These are not easy decisions, and the arguments do not all run one way.

Sadly, as I write, Mrs May looks like she has surrendered to Farage just as she shamefully did to Trump on the refugee ban.

**Andy Slaughter MP
MP for Hammersmith**

Frank Moylett

HAMMERSMITH Academy is shocked and saddened by the sudden passing of one of its founding students, Frank Moylett, after a short illness.

Frank was an intelligent and delightful young man with a thirst for life. He had the ambition to become a doctor or anaesthetist.

His passions for all things theatre and media showed off his understated talents, not only academically but behind the scenes through our school productions and events.

We have lost a thoughtful and kind young man with a bright future ahead of him. His memory will live long in the heart of the academy and in those whose lives he touched.

He will be sorely missed by his friends, colleagues and staff. Our thoughts are with his family at this tragic time.

Hammersmith Academy

Change at the top

I AM proud and humbled to be the leader of Westminster City Council and would like to pay tribute to the excellent leadership shown by councillor, The Baroness Countie.

This unique and special place is at the heart of the undisputed capital of the world, but most importantly, it is home to over a quarter of a million people.

The distinctive and well-known neighbourhoods that make up our city are places full of local colour and character where people are proud to live.

This unique mix of global reach, national importance and local character presents the city council with an equally unique set of opportunities and challenges.

With my professional background in the private sector and public service, being absolutely rooted in the community I love and with my experience of a broad range of cabinet portfolios, I feel ready to meet that challenge, with the support of my cabinet colleagues and excellent and dedicated staff.

I want a city with global standards and the exceptional services that our residents deserve, our one million daily visitors expect, our vulnerable

people need and that support our 50,000 businesses and entrepreneurs to succeed.

Not only are we the proud custodians of this unique place, we also take immense pride in ensuring that we provide opportunities for our residents, as well as encouraging aspiration and responsibility within our community.

This is the essence of our vision of a 'city for all', a place where every single person has the opportunity to realise their potential, for example, where providing more housing gives the best possible prospects for families to thrive.

I will focus on three new priorities in the coming year. We will put civic leadership and responsibility at the heart of all we do, promote opportunity and fairness across Westminster and set the standards for a world class city, all underpinned by an open, working collaboration between our residents, businesses and partners.

It will be up to each and every one of us to get involved, in whatever way people are able, and contribute to Westminster's continued success.

**Councillor Nickie Aiken
Leader, Westminster City Council**

OPINION

London, city of culture. Our fervour for the arts is at the soul of our city and is undoubtedly the capital's number one selling point to tourists around the world.

Every year millions of visitors come to London for a taste of the dizzying array of theatres, galleries, concert halls and arts centres on offer.

The city's famous music venues have provided the soundtrack to this success story over the years, giving a stage not only to the world's superstar artists but offering up a platform for emerging talent to break through.

Yet this vibrant music scene, which has spawned the likes of David Bowie, The Rolling Stones and Adele, The Libertines, The Kinks, Status Quo, Blur and The Who, will be consigned to the history books unless we take action to preserve it.

A major review of venues across the capital under Boris Johnson revealed the shocking statistic that one in three had closed since 2007. Thankfully, this has spurred policy-makers into action and some progress has certainly been made to arrest the decline.

Last month Sadiq Khan announced that London's crop of music venues had stabilised in 2016, meaning just as many opened as closed for the first time in a decade. There are currently 94 still standing.

But we are by no means out of the woods yet. Last week we reported on club owners' fears that the Government's forthcoming rates hike could flatten music-makers and lead to a swathe of job losses.

All eyes will inevitably now turn to Amy Lamé, the Mayor's new Night Czar, who will serve as a champion for the capital's evening economy.

We owe it to ourselves to protect these historic hotbeds of creativity and ensure London continues to bang the drum for the UK's musical talent.



Shameful: city's attitude to the mentally ill

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynnews.co.uk

LONDON'S shameful attitude to the mentally ill has been revealed by a key charity supported by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

Shocking results of the UK's biggest survey into attitudes to mental health have revealed that two in five people with mental illness say they have been stigmatised and almost one in five lost their job after becoming unwell. Mental-health charity chiefs have hit out at the ignorant whose prejudice is leaving the mentally ill feeling "isolated, ashamed and worthless".

Despite the royals' much-publicised campaign to end the stigmatising of the mentally ill, the survey reveals that there is still much work to be done to educate the wider public.

The survey results, released for last week's Time to Talk Day, revealed the "devastating" human cost of mental-health stigma in the capital. The results showed that 38 per cent of respondents in London had been "negatively treated" as a result of their mental-health problem.

The independent public poll was carried out across a sample of 2,000 adults living with a range of mental-health problems. Of those who had experienced stigma and discrimination in London:

- 18 per cent lost their job;
- 59 per cent lost contact with a loved one (a friend, family member or partner);

- 14 per cent couldn't go through with an important life event like a wedding or graduation;
- 55 per cent stopped socialising or going out.

The findings were released as part of a nationwide push to get people talking more openly about mental health.

Time to Talk Day is organised by Time to Change, the campaign supported by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry which aims to change how the public think and act about mental-health problems. It is led by the charities Mind and Rethink Mental Illness.

"Time to Talk Day was established four years ago, in recognition of the fact that people talking and sharing their experiences changes the attitudes of those around them," said a Time To Change spokesman. "Findings from the survey show that more than three in 10 of respondents said they would feel more able to open up about their mental-health problems sooner if people close to them were more open about their feelings and emotions."

Over recent years, Time to Talk Day has triggered millions of conversations across the country – both offline and online. This year, more than a thousand organisations organised awareness-raising activity around the day, together with 600 secondary schools, universities and colleges, councils, national government departments and community organisations.

Sue Baker, director of Time to Change, said:



"These figures show the devastating impact that mental-health stigma continues to have on lives in London."

"We know that progress is being made in improving attitudes and reducing discrimination in some key areas of life but too many of us are still being made to feel isolated, ashamed and worthless by other people's reactions, resulting in the loss of what means the most – our friends, our families, our jobs."

"The good news is that being open about mental health, and ready to listen, can make a positive difference and potentially change lives. Time to Talk Day is a great reason for everyone to get involved and become part of our movement to change how we all think and act about mental health."

Personal trainer Neil Laybourn had a conversation which changed the life of Jonny Benjamin. Neil talked Jonny out of taking his own life when he found Jonny standing on the edge of a London bridge.

Commenting on the importance of Time to

Talk Day, Neil said: "At the time when I spoke to Jonny on the bridge, I really had no idea that having one conversation would have such a profound impact on both of us."

"Most people are fortunate enough not to struggle severely with their mental health but being more aware of the subject and being open to listen and have conversations with those who do struggle can and will make a difference."

"If you are able to allow people to open up and speak, you may change somebody's life. You don't have to be an expert or have a qualification to have a conversation about mental health – just being human, empathetic and caring is enough."

Jonny said: "Talking to Neil was a giant weight off my shoulders. I didn't have to keep all the dark and distressing thoughts and feelings that encompassed me to myself once I opened up to him – and that was a huge relief."

"I felt so embarrassed and ashamed of what was happening to me but having Neil listen so compassionately, patiently and non-judgementally saved my life."

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Laura Bale, second left, with Chelsea Pensioners Doug and Audrey

Pensioners say goodbye to matron

CHELSEA Pensioners have said goodbye to matron – their director of health and wellbeing, Colonel Laura Bale, whose career at the Royal Hospital has spanned the last eight-and-a-half years.

Laura joined the Royal Hospital Chelsea in 2008 as matron – a position she held for the following eight years.

During her time at the Royal Hospital she created the policies and plans for the successful running of the Margaret Thatcher Infirmary, the on-site care home with nursing which opened in 2009, and helped the infirmary

achieve the highest grade – outstanding – from the Quality Care Commission last year.

In a farewell speech in front of a large group of Chelsea Pensioners and staff, the governor of the Royal Hospital, General Sir Redmond Watt, said: "Laura has created a genuinely caring culture and set the standards and the culture to which the staff work and made sure that the staff were trained properly."

"She has also insisted on a process of continuous improvement, and what she has created will endure to support

generations of In-Pensioners in the future. She has been a good friend to everyone here for the last eight-and-a-half years, and great fun too."

Laura said: "At the Royal Hospital Chelsea – whether you are staff or volunteers – the Pensioners are always at the centre of everything we do here at this extraordinary institution."

"My infirmiry staff are outstanding and I'm so proud of the outstanding endorsement that we received from the CQC last year."

"I will miss you all very much."

New yoga studio now open

A NEW yoga and pilates studio has opened at 88 Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush.

The Flying Yogi (TFY) is a boutique studio offering yoga and pilates classes to the growing number of local residents. It is open to all, whether totally new to yoga or pilates or looking for a studio close to home.

It is owned and run by Kasia Poremna, who has lived in West London since moving from Poland to the UK 18 years ago.

Alongside her passion for yoga, which she has been teaching for 12 years, Kasia is a former architect and interior designer. She designed the studio and says it is a haven of calm, simplicity and relaxation – perfect to nurture your wellbeing.

The studio is now in full swing, holding several classes, seven days a week.

As well as running TFY single-handedly, Kasia teaches many of the classes herself. She is loving a challenge which she says is helping regenerate the area and bring to it more awareness of healthy and balanced living. She is joined by a team of "thoughtful, learned, attentive" teachers who teach a variety of styles of yoga and pilates.

The studio is also equipped with a heating system, which uses the most up-to-date technology to offer "radiant" heat – gentler, more hygienic and less sweaty than that used in other forms of hot yoga and pilates. It warms the body and the muscles, which has all sorts of benefits. Classes are hot, warm or without any heat.

TFY's pricing structure is flexible and there are different options to meet varying needs and schedules. There is a special offer of £25 for 10 consecutive days of classes for new students, giving them the chance to try different styles and find out which suits them.

There is also a range of class bundles and subscriptions on offer, reducing the cost per class to £6.80 per class, or the best deal for seriously committed students – six months of unlimited yoga and pilates for £590.

The Flying Yogi says: "We believe in movement for the modern body, and movement to enhance and balance the modern lifestyle.

"We focus on promoting mindfulness, working in proper alignment and increasing strength and flexibility.

"Students will receive the attention they need for a fulfilling and evolving practice.

"At TFY we want to get to know our students and build a community of friends who get on their mat together."

For more details, call 0208 746 7191, visit website theflyingyogi.co.uk or send an email to info@theflyingyogi.co.uk.

City set to be movie capital of the world

WATCH out Los Angeles – now the mayor of London has plans for "Sadiqwood", aiming to make the city the movie capital of the world.

After news that film-making in London was boosted to the sum of £1.35 billion last year, now "The Lion Khan" is pressing ahead with plans for it to become the No 1 movie powerhouse on Earth.

In a star-is-born move, "King Khan" wants to make London the top location for moviemakers currently based in Hollywood and attract the film industry's top talent to London instead.

The mayor said: "I am committed to making London the best, most inviting place for film production in the world."

Sadiq Khan set out his vision for London to become the world's most film-friendly city with a raft of measures announced last week to invest in talent, skills and infrastructure to ensure the capital's film industry is able to continue to reach for the stars.

In an address to industry leaders at the world-renowned Double Negative Visual Effects in Fitzrovia, the mayor said that although the UK continued to attract international film and television projects in record-breaking numbers in 2016, the capital "cannot be complacent in times of unprecedented political and institutional change and global competition".

New figures show that the UK film industry, much of it based in London, has enjoyed a record-breaking year with inward investment in 2016 reaching £1.35 billion – an 18 per cent increase on the previous year. Approximately three quarters of the UK's film industry is based in and around London, meaning that it contributed roughly £1.2 billion to the capital's economy in 2016.

"London is the third busiest city for film production in the world after only Los Angeles and New York. The capital's world-class crews, locations, talent and competitive tax reliefs have sustained London's position in the top three cities – and that also means demand for studio space is incredibly high," said the mayor's spokesman.

"Looking to build on this success, Sadiq announced plans to work in partnership with Creative Skillset and Film London to deliver a new skills strategy. This strategy will identify skills shortages within the capital's film industry, develop routes into the sector for talented creatives, and encourage more people from diverse backgrounds to enter the screen industries."

The mayor also announced that he has appointed consultants SQW, BBP Regeneration and Richard Miller from the University of Hertfordshire to deliver the feasibility study for the London's largest new film studios in London, to be situated at Dagenham East.

"A new film studio complex in Dagenham would enable London to bid successfully for more overseas film productions, benefiting not just the capital but the rest of the UK. It would also create a range of permanent jobs in the East End with ambitions to diversify the industry's workforces,

recognising broader skillsets that are necessary for film production – from carpenters to sound technicians," said the spokesman.

"With space in the capital at an all-time premium and with London's population set to top 10 million by 2026, it is crucial that the city is able to cope with this growth while remaining an inviting and competitive location for filming. In order to maintain London's leading global position, Sadiq will commission Film London to review the London Filming Partnership. The London Filming Partnership is a group of more than 400 organisations committed to making London as film-friendly as possible, which includes organisations as varied as transport bodies, the Metropolitan Police and the royal parks.

"All of the organisations involved share a commitment to making London a welcoming place for production while ensuring the city's residents enjoy the economic benefits of filming in the capital with minimal inconvenience.

"The review will ensure all partners continue to work together in the capital and will identify opportunities to protect and enhance the space available for trailers used by film units and make filming across borough boundaries as easy as possible.

"The recommendations from his review will feed into the world's first cultural infrastructure plan – a mayoral manifesto commitment that will identify what assets and skills are needed in order to sustain London's future as a cultural powerhouse. The culture infrastructure plan is due to be launched in its entirety in 2018."

The creative industries account for one in six jobs in the capital and are a major area for economic growth. Culture and the creative industries are worth £35 billion to the capital's economy and the mayor has made the sector a top priority for his administration.

Mr Khan said: "From upcoming films *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* and *The Mummy* to the recent successes of *Bridget Jones's Baby* and *Brotherhood*, the capital's film industry is currently enjoying record investment and I'm committed to making sure that it continues to flourish, making London the best, most inviting place for film production in the world.

"In order to achieve this, we need to ensure we continue to attract the brightest, most diverse creative talent to London and we need to invest in the kind of physical infrastructure that will ensure our city remains competitive on the global stage."

Adrian Wootton, chief executive of Film London and the British Film Commission, said: "This is a pivotal time for London's screen industries. In terms of skills, talent, studio space and sheer creativity we're very much at the top of our game and in high demand from major productions who want to base their film and television projects here.

"Our priority has to be sustaining this success and, as the mayor told us, he's absolutely committed to retaining London's position as one of the best places in the world



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Happy Valentine's



Welcome to Ottoman, the home of delicious charcoal grilled kebabs and meze.

Situated in Hammersmith, we offer a variety of mouth-watering dishes, not only for meat lovers but for vegetarians too. Whether it's our mixed grill or tasty mezze, we have a menu to tantalise your taste buds.

Each meal is cooked to perfection by our experienced and passionate chefs.

Apart from having a dining area, we also provide a takeaway option where you can actually see the food being prepared, whilst taking in the smell of fresh barbecued food.

Our menu is nothing short of delicious! Mediterranean cuisine at its best!

Pop in and enjoy our "Eat Healthy Lunch Time Special" – a three-course meal for only £8.95. Choose a hot or cold starter from our extensive starter menu, followed by a choice of 11 healthy main dishes to choose from – and since you have been so good why not treat yourself to dessert?

At Ottoman restaurant we welcome all visitors, families and corporate parties, or perhaps you want to treat a loved one to an intimate, romantic meal? Whatever the nature of your visit, we will be more than happy to accommodate you.

If you would like to book for parties please call to make arrangements or pop in to visit. We are now taking Valentines bookings.

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Happy Valentine's

Things to do on Valentine's Day

1. Re-enact your first date

Remember that spark from the night you first met? Why not take your loved one back to where it all began? A taste of old times might show you both how far you have come together.



2. Get active

Most of your fellow Valentines will be eating out or relaxing in front of a film – so why not prove your partner means the world by taking them on an adventure? Skiing, ice skating or even hopping on a roller coaster could help to get the blood pumping on your special day.

3. Book a room

Feel like you want to get away from it all? You could say goodbye to the washing up for one night and devote all your attention to your loved one by checking in at a hotel.

4. Dress up for the occasion

Looking your best doesn't have to be saved for those one-off events. Getting all dressed up for the big night will prove to your partner how much you care about them.

5. Dine in style

Whether you're cooking at home or eating out, make sure it's a meal to remember. There's nothing more romantic than a candle-lit dinner with a bit of your favourite background music to set the mood.

Love's in the air, make it count

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

"Doubt thou the stars are fire. Doubt that the sun doth move. Doubt truth to be a liar. But never doubt I love."

Few of us will be able to match the perfect words of William Shakespeare when it comes to penning our Valentine's Day cards this year.

But never underestimate the power of love to fill you with a flurry of romantic inspiration.

Whether you have been counting down the days to your favourite occasion or dreading the last-minute rush, we will all be searching for that perfect gift to give to our loved ones on February 14.

While the day itself can turn the stomachs of sceptics, most of us simply can't deny a good love story.

Many of us will plump for the old classics again this year – a smooch at the back of the



cinema, a bunch of red roses or a box of chocolates.

But others will opt for something more subtle, pulling out all the stops to treat our partners to the sweetest and most sentimental of gifts.

Whatever it is that floats your boat, make sure you don't leave it too late.

Those midnight river cruises and skyline jet stream messages won't organise themselves, you know.

But if you're still struggling for ideas with only a week to go until the big day, here are a few suggestions to make your Valentine's Day one to remember.



DID YOU KNOW?

- Approximately one billion Valentine's Day cards are sent around the world each year, including 25 million in the UK alone
- About £1.3 billion will be spent on cards, flowers, chocolates and other gifts in the UK this Valentine's Day
- The average Londoner will spend £86.02 on Valentine's Day this year – more than any other part of the country
- About one in 10 marriage proposals take place on Valentine's Day – even though 88 per cent of women believe it's a terrible time to pop the question!
- Almost half of men will ask their date out on Valentine's Day by text – only 15 per cent will ask face-to-face
- The day itself is named after St Valentine, a Christian martyr from the 5th century



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Part-time royals? Don't talk such utter nonsense

THE recent fanfare that has greeted Press reports that the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are to "cease to be part-time royals" is misguided. When were they ever part-timers?

Defenders argue that just because they have not been as high-vis as their groupies demand, it does not mean that they have not been working on more important matters than posing for cameramen like a couple of Kardashians.

More to the point, who accused them of being slackers in the first place?

A search of the internet and the myriad reports on the Cambridges reveals that nobody other than columnists and media commentators ever put their name to the original claims that the couple are work-shy.

As far as any net searching can ascertain, it appears that this "part-time royals" tag has been entirely the creation of journalists. In other words, it has not been an accusation made by anyone important.

But the tag has stuck and has been repeated over and over by various media, both here and abroad, to the extent that if you Google "Duke and Duchess of Cambridge part-time royals" no fewer than 1,100,000 results come up.

This urban myth that the Cambridges are a couple of bone-idle skivers deserves analysis to reveal that it is an empty claim.

For starters, since July 2013 William and Catherine have been new parents. Now while that may not be an impediment in some households to leaping back to your desk before the placenta is delivered, any child psychologist worth his or her salt will tell you that the constant presence of at least one parent in a child's formative years is crucial to the good development of the child's intelligence, personality and social behaviour.

Whilst some may crow that Kate should have been out and about unveiling plaques at more Scouts huts during the infancy of Prince George and Princess Charlotte, the wise would argue that she was doing the right thing to concentrate instead on being with her children.

Nannies, home helps and baby minders have their helpful occasional uses when a mother is in a state of near-exhaustion from incessant breast feeding and no sleep – but none of their help adds up to match the benefits to a child having the reassurance of near-constant access to its mother's attention.

So as Kate plainly wants to dedicate most of her available time to her children, to raise them feeling secure and loved, then it is none of the business of the sticky-beak harpies who besiege her with carping on that she should instead be slaving to provide photo opportunities for those who depend upon her doing such in order to help sell their newspapers.

Second – like his wife, William also realised the importance of being around the home when their children were young. So what did he do? He took a shifts job that would allow that, choosing to volunteer to become a life-saver, flying an air ambulance.

Is that a cause for criticism, helping to save people's lives? Who concluded that he would be better suited



William and Kate should be praised for wanting to be around during their children's formative years, says Royal London's Geoff Baker

hosting investitures just so that he could be photographed more often in the public eye?

Frequency does not necessitate quality and it is a curse of modern times that so many believe that it does. Thanks to the inventors of smartphones and other technology, there is the widespread belief that more is best. Because technology enables news to be delivered at an astonishing rate, a generation is growing up convinced that quantity and not quality is the hallmark of excellence.

We see this everywhere. One's standing is judged in the totals of hits and likes and shares, not by the quality of content. It no longer appears to matter what one says or posts so long as huge numbers of people 'like' it.

But nobody stops to ask how many of those doing the liking are actual movers and shakers. Just because somebody receives the clicked approbation of popular opinion, it does not mean that popular opinion is right; it just means it's popular with the public. But history and indeed the current state of many world affairs is littered with examples of the public getting it wrong.

The same case for quality over quantity applies very much to the recent workload of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge – it's not how much they do which is important but

what they do. For instance, if the Cambridges were the sort of royals who thought that it was important to justify themselves by opening hundreds of supermarkets and hosting scores of meet-and-greets each year, would that, establishing an almost-ubiquitous presence in the public eye, achieve more of significance than what they do?

Look at the example of William's much-missed mother. Diana, Princess of Wales, did not achieve her unparalleled standing and respect because you couldn't go down to Tesco on any day without tripping over her getting out and about in the public eye. She was loved and admired not for the frequency of her appearances but for the good that she did in championing causes that deserved to be championed.

It is the same with the Cambridges. If they are to be judged, it should be on the importance of the work that they do – not on how often you see them.

If William and Kate were at it day and night launching ships, inspecting troops, presenting awards, visiting factories, hosting receptions, attending concerts and planting trees, would that be more beneficial to society than what they prefer to do – campaigning for the homeless, the mentally ill and the addicted?

Look at what they, and Prince

Harry, have achieved and are achieving through their work on mental health through their championing of charities like Mind and Place2Be, much of which is done behind the scenes because it requires briefing, understanding and planning.

Because they have spoken frankly and personally on the importance of awareness of mental health, they have completely changed the landscape on this vital issue.

Because they have lent their fame, celebrity and passion to the hugely important task of improving mental health, they have started to change the way in which the entire nation feels about it.

Because Kate, William and Harry have stood up and said 'There is no shame in this, we all suffer from it', it has made a vast, incalculable difference to bettering the lives of millions (one in four, remember).

The young royals' allies very much doubt if Mind, a mental-health charity founded in 1946, has ever in its long history been so much in the public consciousness as it is now, thanks to the exposure and publicity it has been given by William, Kate and Harry.

The young royals have completely changed the national agenda on mental health – they have made it 'the new thing', as it deservedly needs to be. Their work has even prompted the

Prime Minister to act on mental health – citing the inspiration of the royals' good example – when so many governments in the past pretty much just ignored the issue.

Now you may think that gracing 500 back-slapping receptions and lunches a year is important work for a royal.

But in many others' books, such support for those honoured by a royal presence pales into insignificance in comparison with doing good for the disadvantaged and those who need help.

Much has been made of the "Kate Factor" and how the duchess' preference for this or that handbag or dress or hatpin has boosted a particular company's sales.

And while that is all very well and good for that company's profits and may, or may not, even help boost imports and jobs to some extent, bumping up the clothing economy is insignificant compared with influencing modern culture to be more caring.

Critics can rant that they never see Kate down the pub playing darts, or whatever other high-vis expectations they have of her.

But given how she more considerately chooses to spend her time, is it not to the greater advantage of us all to have a caring Kate rather than a Kardashian one?

Geoff Baker

LWN news editor
Geoff Baker
on the
posers
the Queen
will face
organising a
state banquet
attended
by
Donald
Trump



DECISIONS, decisions... pity the Queen. With President Trump's official state visit impending amid uproar, Her Majesty now faces tiring months of working out what to eat at the banquet, where to seat the guests, what gift to give him and whether Piers Morgan should be on the guest list and Sadiq Khan shouldn't.

The Queen is known to take a keen and particular interest in every aspect of a state banquet and the impending one for the US President is set to be one of the most vexing to arrange.

"Every element of the state banquet is inspected, checked and approved by the Queen, right down to every last detail," says a Buckingham Palace spokesman.

That's all fine and dandy when the guest of honour is an epicurean leader of France who would relish the delicacies that the palace kitchens can prepare, such as the West Coast turbot with lobster mousse and roasted loin of Balmoral venison in a madeira and truffle sauce which was served for the visit of President Xi Jinping in 2015. But what do you cook when the favourite meals of the man coming to dinner include meatloaf, Big Macs, pizza without the crust (so he can keep his weight down) and ice cream?

The answer is probably steak. The President loves it and Her Majesty has more than 100 head of prize-winning Highland cattle on her Balmoral estate.

Although, according to what his long-time butler at the Mar-a-Lago club in Palm Beach told *The New York Times*, President Trump likes it cooked so thoroughly that "it would rock on the plate", so the palace chefs had better get out the barbecue.

OK, so that's sorted; steak a la napalm and raspberry ripple for afters. But what about drinks – should Her Majesty get out the Chateau Haut-Brion 1990, which sells at £595 a bottle? Or how about the 1961 vintage Dom Perignon, a snip at around £1,200?

A vast horseshoe-shaped table is put together for the standard number of 150 guests at a state banquet and it is decked with priceless dinner and cruet sets, napkins folded in the shape of a Dutch bonnet, flower decorations, candelabra and six glasses per person – for water, a champagne toast, red and white wines, a dessert wine and port.

However, President Trump will probably only need two glasses; one for water and another for the Coke that, as a teetotaler, he prefers with his meals. OK, tick, big saving there.

The next item on Her Majesty's checklist will be somewhat more problematic – who to sit next to and opposite the President.

Clearly President Trump will be seated with Her Majesty on his left, but then what? Will the Duchess of Cambridge, the Royal Family's very own weapon of mass seduction, be placed on his other side to charm him? Or should that seat go to the Prime Minister, or to the Prince of Wales?

Pity Her Majesty as she prepares for the Donald



US President Donald Trump, left, will experience all the pomp of a state banquet at Buckingham Palace, above – and the Queen could do a lot worse than give him as his visiting present this ancient comb, right, currently in the collection of the Museum nan Eilean on Lewis



Ah yes, the thorny issue of the Prince of Wales. While Prince William and Prince Harry can be relied upon to chat away to the First Lady, enthusiastically recounting how the lovely dessert reminds them of the ice cream they enjoyed as nippers at Kensington Palace, few at the Foreign Office – who will be thoroughly consulted on the seating plan – may want to risk Charles leaning over the Domino's starter with any of that "have you read my children's book on climate change?" lark.

Given that the President's and the Prince's views on the peril of climate change are somewhat melting ice poles apart, reportedly there has already been much disquiet over whether Charles should even meet the Trumps, let alone sign his Ladybird book for them.

According to *The Sunday Times*, "Trump's people are worried about an awkward moment, with Charles saying 'Why don't you believe in climate change?'. They will react quite strongly to that. They do not want the President to be put in an awkward position where he's been lectured."

Lord forbid. With our Brexit having offended the 27 other member states of the EU, the UK is in desperate need of a substitute trade deal with the US. And now that President Trump says we can go to the front of the queue that President Obama said we should be at the back of, nobody is going to want us risking to be shown the tradesman's entrance again if Charles starts advising the Donald on which is the best tone of voice to use when conversing with a cabbage.

Perhaps it will be arranged for the forthright Prince of Wales to have "a bad cold" throughout the duration of the President's visit.

Anyway, Her Majesty has other pressing problems – like who else to invite besides the obligatory ambassadors, diplomats, senior civil servants and fellow royals; 150 seats require a lot of guests to fill and nobody will want the President to feel like Donny No Mates with few friends in the banquet crowd.

Rupert Murdoch and his wife Jerry Hall are said to be pals – they dined with the Donald at his Turnberry golf course last year, so tick, invite them. Tick too Jacob Rees-Mogg, the Conservative MP who is said to be a supporter.

What about Nigel Farage? Clearly he and the President are pals, so should he get an invite? And one too for Piers Morgan, Mr Murdoch's old editor at the *News Of The World* – doubtless the royals' favourite newspaper – who says he's a buddy?

"I genuinely like him," says the breakfast television polemicist.

"I have known him through 10 years, and saw from *The Apprentice* he can be charming, funny, smart and his judgment is spot on. He loved drama and arguments and making the right decision and being popular.

"I totally disagree with him on guns, on climate change. But I can see Trump in a way that you can't. I consider him a good friend, and loyal to me."

OK, tick Piers. But have a footman tell him he can't take notes at the table.

But then Her Majesty has the tricky problem of Mr Khan to consider.

By rights any mayor of London ought to be high on the guest list for a state banquet.

But even before Sadiq announced last week "we must now rescind the offer of a full state visit for President Trump" in his backing to the widespread objection to the Donald's banning of refugees and people from seven Muslim countries, there was more than enough reason for the President to start throwing his uneaten pizza dough at the mayor.

Even if the President has forgotten, if Piers is there he will probably remind him. For it was in an interview with Morgan when he hit out after London's first Muslim mayor warned that Mr Trump's "ignorant" views on religion would make the world less safe if he became President.

Somewhat unhelpfully in the international trade view of things, a spokesman for the mayor said before

the US election: "Donald Trump's views are ignorant, divisive and dangerous – it's the politics of fear at its worst and will be rejected at the ballot box just as it was in London."

But then the Donald told Piers: "He doesn't know me, hasn't met me, doesn't know what I'm on about. I think they're very rude statements and frankly tell him I will remember those statements. They're very nasty statements. I think it's ignorant for him to say that."

"When he won I wished him well. Now, I don't care about him, I mean it doesn't mean any difference to me, let's see how he does, let's see if he's a good mayor."

Asked if he was offended by Mr Khan's public denouncement he replied: "Yeah, I am."

Oh Lord, what does a poor Queen do in the light of that? Could the diminutive but feisty mayor be persuaded to catch Prince Charles' strategic cold? Could he be invited but hidden behind a corgi?

Best not dwell on it, not least as there are many other worries for Her Majesty stacking up around this visit.

For starters, there's this troublesome matter of the at least one million who have signed the petition that President Trump should not come at all. If he does come, what's it going to look like if most of them turn out to flank The Mall and hurl abuse as he parades past in a gilded coach, how on Earth is that going to be glossed over?

One answer might be to follow the precedent set by a previous President and not conduct the state visit in Central London at all.

When President Reagan popped over in the 1980s, amid the threat of similar protests surrounding his friendship for the mob's non-favourite Margaret Thatcher, it was arranged that he should meet the Queen not at Buckingham Palace but at Windsor Castle. Could President Trump be similarly fobbed off with spot of horseback in the park and a tour of Slough? Probably not.

But Her Majesty did not get to where she is today by not being

shrewd and canny and she will know that the artful way to make her guest feel welcome will be to major on his Scottish antecedence, namely his mum, Mary MacLeod, born on the Isle of Lewis before she emigrated to the States.

Mary was born in a croft in the village of Tong, the youngest of 10 Gaelic-speaking children whose father was a crofter, fisherman and the local truancy officer.

And according to her famous son, she loved the Queen. Phew.

"Whenever anything was on ceremonial about the Queen she could sit at the television and just watch it. She had great respect for the Queen," the President has said.

"It's interesting when your mother, who was such a terrific woman, comes from a specific location, you tend to like that location. I think I do feel Scottish."

Excellent, somebody make a note of that; "I do feel Scottish". Consequently, the piper at the palace who traditionally wakes Her Majesty at 9am each day will probably be told to nip down to Boosey & Hawkes sheet-music shop at Aldwych House and pick up the score for *Puir à Eilean Leodhais*, tunes for bagpipes from the Isle of Lewis. Tick.

But what about the royal gift? The Queen is always most particular in choosing an especially personal present for her visitors, like the model of a Pashupatinath temple which she gave to the King of Nepal when he popped over in 1960 and the jar of honey she gave to the Pope, made by her own Buckingham bees.

A nice bit of Harris Tweed for the Isle of Lewis might be very "suit you sir" for the President. But hang about, according to the website "Harris Tweed Isle of Harris and Harris Tweed and Knitwear belong to the Campbell family", what's the history of the Campbells and the MacLeods, any bad blood there? Somebody check that.

But there's an idea, how about a lovely spot of Clan MacLeod tartan, perhaps made up as a kilt? But then again, didn't the President commission his own Trump tartan several years back? Which would he prefer? And is it a good idea that everyone wears kilts at the banquet, knowing how skirts can often ride up on the chairs? Oh dear, more decisions.

Of course, as it's treasure trove and therefore technically owned by the Crown, a gift-searching monarch could always pull rank and give President Trump the Lewis chessmen, the 12th-century chess pieces carved in walrus ivory which were discovered on Lewis in 1831.

But then again the British Museum and National Museum of Scotland may demur and, ah, ivory... would that start Charles kicking off and getting all ecologically correct? Perhaps best not.

However, among its collection of artefacts excavated by archaeologists on the Western Isles, the Museum nan Eilean on Lewis may have the ideal present for the man who has everything and they may be persuaded to part with it, in exchange for a visit from the Duchess of Cambridge or some such – it's perfect, an ancient comb; he'll love it. Or maybe not.

Pity the Queen, this is going to be a tough one.

Capital nights

gigguide

Compiled by Jack Dixon



Green Day

The O2, Greenwich

Wednesday February 8

Punk rockers beloved by bedroom kids throughout the 90s for their anti-establishment rhetoric and emo ballads. Shot to superstardom with 2004 album *American Idiot* which took a swipe at the Bush government but still best remembered for slow number *Good Riddance (Time Of Your Life)*. Returned after four-year break with comeback record *Revolution Radio* in 2016.



Big Thief

The Lexington, Islington

Thursday February 9

Brooklyn indie rockers who emerged on the scene last year and garnered positive reviews for debut album *Masterpiece*. Grunge-era guitars combine with Adrienne Lenker's yelped vocals on a string of garage-style slammers adorned with the odd lullaby. Their style is best exhibited on singalong *Real Love* and emotional closer *Parallels*.



Bloc Party

The Roundhouse, Camden

Friday February 10

Classic post-punk revivalists who smashed through the mainstream barrier in 2005 with debut album *Silent Alarm*. Four records and several line-up changes later, singer Kele Okereke and guitarist Russell Lissack remain – with a beefed-up, house-inspired sound drizzled with indie rock vibes. Known for their introspective lyrics and furious solos.

WE live in troubling times. Europe. The NHS. The gathering storm of fortnightly bin

collections. Where will it all end?

It's once again up to The Pub Landlord to guide us through this strange and unsettling new world – with a pint for the gentleman and a glass of white wine for the lady.

But Al Murray's ale-guzzling character is an outcast no more. Gone are the days when the pint-pulling barman's common-sense rhetoric and it-ain't-like-it-used-to-be mantra were quibblings drawn from political antiquity.

No, as of June 23, The Pub Landlord is Joe Public. The popular majority. And his beery 'Little Englander' remarks are now the language of government policy.

Brexit is surely the dream ticket for Murray, who brings his most famous creation back to London next week in *Let's Go Backwards Together*.

Calling time on Europe is The Pub Landlord's moment of triumph, a chance to whip out the bunting and drape the bar in Union Jacks while his regulars join him in a chorus of *Rule, Britannia!*

It's the crowning glory on a lifetime of sticking it up the political-correctness brigade and asking "Whatever happened to this country?"

But while The Pub Landlord is breathing in the sweet air of freedom, Murray himself will be spitting feathers. An inveterate remainder who engineered the landlord character to poke fun at the UKIPs of the world, the 48-year-old has had to stand and watch while his alter ego came full circle, like Frankenstein's monster, to boot him up the backside.

AS further proof that chefs now rule the world, ITV is to give Gordon Ramsay, pictured, a chat show.

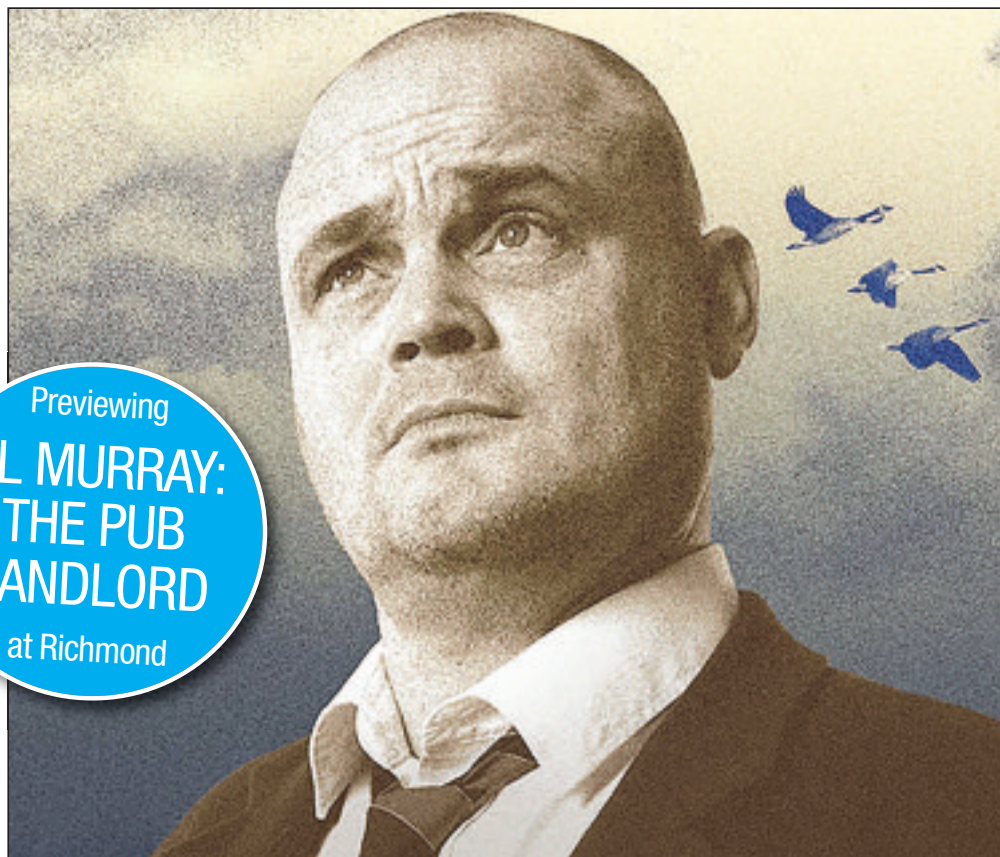
Now that should be good for a record-breaking use of the bleep button.

Ramsay, who is not exactly famed for his ability to suffer fools either gladly or unloudly, is to be a host on *The Nightly Show*, a new five-nights a week chat and entertainment programme which will run for eight weeks and start soon on ITV.

Indeed, Ramsay is to become the "new" face of ITV this year as he fronts a huge run of programming.

Besides *The Nightly Show*, he has also been signed to present a "hard-hitting documentary series", the nature of

Previewing
**AL MURRAY:
THE PUB
LANDLORD**
at Richmond



It was a political ideology he attempted to mock in the real world back in 2015 when he ran as The Pub Landlord in the general election, standing against Nigel Farage for the seat of South Thanet. He picked up 318 votes as the Free the United Kingdom Party (FUKP) candidate.

Back in real life, Murray says the surprise turnaround in events, followed up with Donald Trump's ascendancy in the US, has caught many of his contemporaries off guard. "There's been a year of it

for a lot of comedy writers and comedians I know where basically reality has been outflanking everyone," he explained in a recent interview. "You come up with something funny and then the reality is even more ridiculous."

It poses a new challenge for Murray then, to reimagine The Pub Landlord not as a relic of a bygone era but as a man very much of the people.

The bloke behind the bar is now the norm. The man who will answer the call of destiny, even

though it's an unlisted number. Who will call time on tyranny, even though he isn't quite sure what it means. Who isn't afraid to say no to women who order anything other than a glass of white wine or a fruit-based drink.

Here The Pub Landlord, our bar-based braveheart, embarks on a common-sense campaign to re-great Britain in the Brexit age.

Al Murray: The Pub Landlord performs Let's Go Backwards Together at Richmond Theatre on Sunday February 12.

which has not been revealed, other than that it will be "hard-hitting", and another series of one-hour daytime cookery programmes.

His new cook show, *Culinary Genius*, will be, says ITV, "an entirely original format mixing food with compelling gameshow and cooking elements."

"The high-octane, large-scale competition will run for four weeks on ITV, and each episode will see nine keen amateur cooks competing across a range of challenges in the hope of taking home a cash prize, and the title of Culinary Genius."

No copy-cattling of *The Great British Bake Off* format there then.

Geoff Baker



Capital nights

LOYLE Carner was only just past the legal drinking age when he became the man of the family home. His stepfather Nik – a role model and hero to Loyle in place of his estranged biological dad – passed away in tragic circumstances after suffering an epilepsy-related seizure.

It left a void at home – and though he was pursuing a career on the stage at the time, partway through an acting course at The Drama Centre in King's Cross, Loyle dropped out to take care of his mother Jean and younger brother Ryan.

"My mum wasn't putting any pressure on me to quit but I felt the pressure to have to provide for my family and step into my dad's massive shoes," he confessed in a recent interview.

"I was like 'Let me try this music thing for a bit and if it doesn't work I'll get a job'. It was a leap of faith."

Less than three years later, it seems the leap is already paying dividends for Loyle, whose rap pseudonym is a rearrangement of his double-barrelled birth name Ben Coyle-Larner.

The moniker – like many of Loyle's lyrics – was in part inspired by his childhood experiences growing up with attention deficit disorder and dyslexia.

He'd often mispronounce his tongue-twister surname in school while struggling to find the words for his 100mph mind. But with his stylish brand of hip-hop and thoughtful lyrical reflections, it's clear that Loyle has finally found his voice.

His debut album, *Yesterday's Gone*, hit the shelves last month. A deeply personal account of his young manhood, the record candidly reveals the pain of Loyle's family trauma as well as his personal redemption through music.

"There's nothing to believe in, believe me," Loyle raps on the gospel-soaked opener *Isle Of Arran*, which fires straight into the 22-year-old's backstory.

It's followed up with touching ballads *Mrs C* and *Florence* alongside the spunky firebrands *No CD* and *Ain't Nothing Changed*.

Retaining an original voice throughout, Loyle stumbles upon an understated new path for UK hip-hop – ploughing a furrow of his own, distinct from the grime scene that dominates at present.

The album's introspective poignancy is beautifully spotlighted on its emotional pinnacle, *Sun Of Jean*, which features Loyle's mother reading a poem comprising memories of her son's childhood.

"He was a scribble of a boy, all hair and mischief. A two-foot tale of trouble," she recalls to a tear-jerk piano tinkle.

"He turned the world upside down and we're richer for it. He was and is a complete joy. The world is his, that scribble of a boy."

Loyle was raised in West Norwood and still resides in South London – with his mother and brother, of course, in Croydon.

While his music career begins to take off – he was nominated on last year's BBC Sound of 2016 list, performed alongside his hop-hop hero Nas and is finally "getting waves" on mainstream radio – family life remains at the core.

Even though he's a Liverpool Football Club fan, Loyle always wears a Manchester United shirt on stage, emblazoned with the name of Eric Cantona, in memory of Nik.

The closing track on *Yesterday's Gone* is in fact an acoustic demo recorded with his stepfather before he died.

"Look up and you'll see the sunshine, so high above," he sings. "Goodbye to darkness and welcome back to love. Every yesterday it was a nightmare for someone. The days they count are coming and the best ones have begun."

Loyle Carner will perform at the O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire on February 17 and 18. The new album Yesterday's Gone is out now.

Jack Dixon
previews

LOYLE CARNER
at Shepherd's
Bush



PITY poor Lucie Jones, the UK's entry in the Eurovision Song Contest. Insiders say she hasn't got a snowball's chance in hell of winning it.

This year, the odds of Britain doing well at Europe's most ludicrously political song festival will be stacked against it like never before.

Lucie, pictured, the former *X-Factor* contender who came eighth in series six, will do well to even get in the top 10 of Eurovision.

It is not the fact that the UK entry, *Never Give Up On You*, contains no catchy tune nor memorable hook that is expected to count against it. We are expected to get heavily marked down because, of course, of Brexit.

As the UK has ragged off all of the other 27 member states of the EU, analysts believe that the

British entry can expect to get nil points from all of the sulky continentals who are cross that we are leaving the club and therefore denying them the opportunity to flood over here for cheap Marmite.

The bookies are only giving Lucie odds of 50/1 of winning, relegating the world's most hit-making music nation to the status of one of those east European countries like Albania that has never had an international smash in its entire history – which may account for Albania's Eurovision odds being 360/1 currently.

However, those who have heard Albania's entry, *Bote by Lindita*, reckon those odds are generous to say the least.

The bookmakers are already predicting that Sweden will win (odds of 6/1) or that Russia (7/1) will walk it – which is an inter-



esting indication on how political Eurovision has become as none of those countries' official entries were even decided when the odds were set.

Bookies are even quoting odds of 12/1 for a win for Australia, that well-known European nation. And those odds were also given before Australia had decided on its official song.

But Lucie is putting a brave face on her doomed chances.

"We always talk about this political voting but this year I'm

looking forward to being part of an event that is going to be globally unifying," she said somewhat optimistically.

"Eurovision is all about unity and what a great year to be an ambassador for our country. I'll deal with it when I get there."

Despite the UK's dismal chances of a win, the song contest final is widely expected to once again attract many millions of British viewers on May 13, as it has become the nation's most-popular comedy show, always good for a laugh at what Europeans consider qualifies as a good pop song.

However, given a choice an overwhelming majority of Brits would prefer it if we not only pulled out of Europe but left Eurovision too.

A YouGov poll last year revealed that 60 per cent of the UK wants to quit the song contest –

as opposed to the enthusiasm for the show in Sweden, where 75 per cent love it. This follows a similar poll in 2013 which showed that Britons have the strongest conviction that "it's all political".

The late Sir Terry Wogan famously stepped down as UK host in 2008 for this very reason, claiming that the event was no longer a music competition.

Bonnie Tyler described the voting as "unbelievable" after she came 19th of 26 finalists in 2013.

And Simon Webbe, of 2011 UK entry Blue, said it was "often not really about the song but who your neighbours are".

A petition to Parliament pressing for a change to the Eurovision voting system, politically rigged against the UK, has to date been signed by 393,815 people.

The song contest could finally

Talk of the town



LONDON is gearing up for a *Strictly Come Dancing* party next week as the 2017 live tour culminates with performances at both the SSE Arena and the O2, writes Nicky Sweetland.

Stars of the 2016 BBC television series, along with some of the nation's favourite *Strictly* professionals will don the sequins and take to the stage for the 10th anniversary of the Live show and after watching the team in rehearsals a few weeks ago, I can guarantee London audiences are in for a real treat.

The theatrical spectacular boasts an all-star cast, with the three finalists from the last series all taking to the dance floor to share their accomplishments with the wider public.

With Joanne Clifton currently enthralled audiences in theatres around the country as she takes the lead role in the musical *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, her triumphant Glitterball trophy winning celebrity dance apprentice Ore Oduba, will be dancing with her sister-in-law Karen Clifton.

Louise Redknapp continues her successful partnership with Kevin Clifton and Danny Mac will present some highlights from his *Strictly* journey with his vivacious dance cohort Oti Mabuse.

Danny told me he was looking forward to getting back to the ballroom and said: "It was nice to leave the show at Christmas but to know there was still some of it left and so it wasn't over. It was such an amazing experience."

The pair will be performing their Samba to *Magalenha* by Sergio Mendes along with an ensemble made up of *Strictly* professionals to add another dimension to the raunchy and infectious number. It was a real highlight of the series for many



Our entertainments writer Nicky Sweetland meets *Strictly Come Dancing* favourites Danny Mac and Oti Mabuse

fans of the show and the couple garnered a perfect score of 40 from the judges for their efforts.

The dance, which will possibly be remembered most from the last series, however was performed by former Shadow Chancellor Ed Balls' and his partner Katya Jones.

Their rendition of *Gangnam Style* will go down in *Strictly Come Dancing* history and is one of the routines the couple is sure to present when they take to the stage in London.

Balls proved to be surprisingly popular with the television audiences and his improvement from week to week won him applause from both judges and fellow contestants alike.

Ed said: "I think I surprised everyone, including myself by how long I lasted on the show. I was thinking it would be nice to get through the first couple of weeks; I didn't want to go out on the first week and I really wanted to do my best. I think the thing we weren't

the judges, he decided he had to commit to the project and so went to Len Goodman's school in Kent to gain a greater knowledge from the master about the different genres of dance he was to be scrutinising.

As with the television programme, the stage show has embraced a more theatrical quality over the years, introducing different styles of dance as well as impressive scenic design and lighting effects.

Craig has decided to go back to basics to mark the production's decade however.

"We want the tenth anniversary to be about the dance and to celebrate really fantastic dance.

"We wanted it to be a human and emotional experience this year. In previous years we've relied on scenery and effects but this year we want it to be a celebration of the people and of dance."

Daisy Lowe and Lesley Joseph complete the line up, with the judging panel made up of Revel Horwood, Karen Hardy and Len Goodman, who retired as head judge from the television show last year.

I asked Craig if they were paying special tribute to the legendary ballroom expert during the tour.

He laughed and said: "Just the fact that he [Goodman] can walk down the stairs and get on the stage is good. That will be tribute enough won't it? We are doing a little thing showing Len's favourites from over the years and I think they will be interesting for people to see."

Strictly Come Dancing the Live Tour will be at the SSE Arena on February 9 and 10 and the O2 Arena on February 11 and 12. If you would like any further information, you can visit www.strictlycomedancinglive.com

Matt Monro, the legend plays on

KNOWN to many as 'the man with the golden voice', Matt Monro was one of Britain's most successful artists, with iconic songs like *Born Free* and *The Impossible Dream* selling millions of copies worldwide.

30 years after the musician, often dubbed 'The singer's singer', passed away, his son is taking to the road with a show to celebrate the man and his music, writes Nicky Sweetland.

Matt Monro Jr never imagined he would follow in his father's footsteps and make a career in show business, but he decided to start singing to raise money for Cancer Research after both his father and brother died from the disease.

Matt's appearance on *Opportunity Knocks* launched his career and after a tour with Cannon and Ball, the younger Monro found there was still an appetite for his father's music and so embarked on producing his own show.

Matt said: "I did all this initially because I didn't want to let go of my dad and I wanted to keep his name on stage. I wanted to still have closeness to him rather than him being gone."

Monro Jr's *The Legend Lives On* show saw the singer tour to over 40 concert venues across the country and thirty years after his father's death, he feels the time is right to do a new production, which Matt describes as a "no holds barred" show about his father's life.

"I want people to find out about the man behind the music and it's taken the best part of two years to put together."

The journey of a boy who couldn't read or write, and yet had to support his family, is told in loving detail by his son giving a glimpse into what it was like growing up in the Monro household. Video clips, home movies, even sequences where Matt Jr duets with his dad, all play a part in this celebration of the life and legacy of Matt Monro.

"It's lovely and for me, the highlight is when I'm singing with my dad again," said Matt.

Produced throughout his career by Sir George Martin, in the 1960s and 70s Matt Monro's hits encompassed some of the greatest popular music ever. From *Russia With Love*, *The Impossible Dream*, *Portrait Of My Love*, *Softly As I Leave You*, *Walk Away, My Kind Of Girl*, *Yesterday* and *Gonna Build A Mountain* are just some of the songs that made him a household name. And then, of course, there was *Born Free*.

Born Free was the song that firmly established Matt Monro in the hearts of the young and the old alike. Its opening notes forever conjured up a time and place – African plains, endangered lions, the film with actress Virginia McKenna... The smooth mellifluous voice of Matt became synonymous with *Born Free* and the song was, and still is, a huge iconic song in Africa.

Matt Monro Jr pays tribute to his legendary father with a new CD, *A Father's Legacy* and a new show, *The Matt Monro Story: One Voice*.

Encapsulating not just the story of his father's rags-to-riches life it gives a unique insight into the man himself. The Matt Monro Story is touring the UK now and will visit Churchill Theatre Bromley on 24th February.

Talk of the town

Review: *Death Takes a Holiday*

Death Takes a Holiday
Charing Cross Theatre
???

CHARING Cross Theatre, under the artistic direction of Thom Southerland, has become something of a hub for musical theatre over the last year, championing otherwise unseen work and gaining huge acclaim for European premieres of shows like *Titanic* and *Ragtime*, writes Nicky Sweetland.

The latest production, of Maury Yeston's *Death Takes a Holiday*, is yet another triumph for the director, who is fast becoming a theatrical virtuoso and continues to exhibit excellence in the craft of presenting traditional musical theatre themes to new audiences.

Written in the 1920s and set in Northern Italy, shortly after the First World War, *Death Takes a Holiday* follows Death, who after years of questioning why people fear him, takes on human form for three days so that he can mingle among mortals and find an answer.

With a book by multi-Tony Award winners Thomas Meehan and Peter Stone, *Death Takes a Holiday* is based on the 1928 Italian play of the same name, which went on to inspire the 1934 American Pre-Code romantic drama starring Fredric March, Evelyn Venable and Guy Standing. Many will recognise the story from its more recent incarnation, entitled *Meet Joe Black*, a 1998 blockbuster film starring Brad Pitt.

Death takes on the persona of Prince Sirki (Chris Peluso) and after revealing himself and his intentions to the Duke (Mark Inscoe), takes up temporary resi-



Death Takes A Holiday, running at Charing Cross Theatre, stars Chris Peluso and Zoë Doano
Picture Scott Rylander

dence in the family's villa. However, events soon spiral out of control as Death falls in love with the Duke's daughter, the beautiful young Gazia (Zoë Doano).

The charismatic couple beautifully portrays the heart warming and romantic story, with Peluso exhibiting a worryingly attractive creepiness, while maintaining his matinee idol exterior. Doano is equally impressive with a glorious traditional soprano voice and subtly steely characterisation.

The structure of the show has obvious echoes of musical theatre's yesteryear, with plenty of unrequited love stories making the incidental character tracks hold

more importance for the audience.

Gay Soper does dotty old Dame extremely well and her late blooming love for Dr Dario, played with class by Anthony Cable, is wonderfully depicted with a senile sensuality.

Although only a small role rising star Samuel Thomas makes a huge impact as Eric and his *Roberto's Eyes* is simply stunning, while James Gant's waggish Fidele gives some light relief to the otherwise somber plot.

The musical highlight comes in Act 2 when Helen Turner and Scarlett Courtney join Zoë Doano as the lovelorn trio delightfully expresses their confusion over their feelings for their potential beaus in *Finally to Know*.

With an imposing set by Morgan Large and beautifully balanced orchestra under the expert baton of Dean Austin, audiences are transported back to a golden era of musical theatre, while Yeston's intricate refrains continuously assist the narrative.

Death Takes a Holiday is a traditional musical theatre treat and a must see for fans of the burgeoning partnership of Yeston and Southerland.

Death Takes A Holiday will run at the Charing Cross Theatre to Saturday 4 March. For further details, visit www.charingcrosstheatre.co.uk

Dirty Great Love Story
Arts Theatre
???

'FROM small beginnings come great things' and that's certainly true with *Dirty Great Love Story*, which, after starting life as a ten-minute poetry duet now finds itself in the West End as a fully-fledged and utterly compelling comedy showcase, writes Nicky Sweetland.

Writers Katie Bonna and Richard Marsh first performed the mini rom-com in the backroom of a pub and after eons of elaboration and a successful run in Edinburgh, the pair have scored a hit with their hilariously funny and honest portrayal of a thirty something love story. Told through a mixture of prose and poetry with all of the gritty details of the human condition in tact, we are introduced to Katie and Richard, who after a drunken encounter can't seem to escape their perpetual attraction to one another.

All too familiar, colourful characters are portrayed by a daring duo, with Ayesha Antoine wonderfully capturing both a confused singleton and a modern

wag - who exhibits an aggravating estuarine drawl while Felix Scott seamlessly switches from laddish lout to toff with riotous results.

The dialogue at times has a rhythmic content not dissimilar to some of Roald Dahl's poetry, with witty couplets, clever phrasing and illuminating alliteration.

Pia Furtado's sparky direction, coupled with Camilla Clarke's smart set design, help to give an uncomplicated energy, while Mark Howland's lighting further adds to the simplistic yet slick look of the production.

The different planets from which men and women obviously hail are fully played upon with awkward exchanges perfectly pitched to get the biggest laughs, but with a wholesome and completely believable subtext running throughout.

With the days beginning to get longer as we look forward to spring, this heart felt, but not too sentimental show will help to remind even the most pessimistic theatregoers that is always hope. **Dirty Great Love Story** will run at the Arts Theatre until March 18. If you would like further details visit www.artstheatrewestend.co.uk



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Property

Research by a property consultant has suggested Crossrail could cause a huge jump in house prices along the Elizabeth line.

House prices in West Drayton and Ealing are expected to rise by up to 50% by 2020 because of the new Crossrail project, claims a property consultant.

Research carried out by JLL suggests West Drayton and Ealing Broadway are amongst the areas set to see the biggest rise in house prices as the Elizabeth line railway nears completion.

Crossrail is aimed at improving transport links London and the south east of England and will connect Reading and Heathrow in the west to Shenfield in Essex and Abbey Wood in Greenwich in the east.

Residential research director at JLL, Neil Cheg-widden, said: "Crossrail has already triggered land purchases, development activity and price growth along its route and our research demonstrates that there are still plenty of opportunities to come."

"Whilst Whitechapel

comes out top in terms of overall benefit from the line, we believe the medium to longer opportunity areas are the ones to keep an eye on as developers and investors will seek to make the most of this transport link that will connect east to west London as never before."

The research coincides with Aqua House at Union Park being put on the market, which is a new 118 apartment building on the Grand Union Canal, and will be a mile away from the new West Drayton crossrail station.

Crossrail, which is expected to be fully running by 2019, will cut journey times to 31 minutes from West Drayton to central London.

The train station at West Drayton is also undergoing a major revamp as part of the Crossrail work, including a new entrance canopy, extended platforms, new lifts, lighting, improved customer information screens and CCTV.

Crossrail trains will run up to six services an hour through West Drayton.



Research by a property consultant has suggested Crossrail could cause a huge jump in house prices along the Elizabeth line

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LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1) (CRESFORD ROAD) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate Thames Water works to be carried out in the above named road; it intends to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Cresford Road at its junction with Wandsworth Bridge Road.
- An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would via
 - Wandsworth Bridge Road, Bovington Road and Bagleys Lane
 - Wandsworth Bridge Road, New Kings Road and Harwood Terrace
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order would come into operation on the 16th February 2017 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works would be expected to commence on Thursday 16th February 2017 and last for 4 days with a backup of Tuesday 28th February 2017. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 2nd day of February 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

Public Notices

Transport for London Notice

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 THE A5 GLA SIDE ROAD (STAR STREET, CITY OF WESTMINSTER) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF STOPPING) ORDER 2017

- Transport for London hereby gives notice that it intends to make the above named Traffic Order under section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for the purpose specified in paragraph 2. The effect of the Order is summarised in paragraph 3.
- The purpose of the Order is to enable construction works to take place on Star Street.
- The effect of the Order will be to prohibit any vehicle from stopping in the loading bay outside 108 to 110 Star Street. The Order will be effective from 12:00 AM on 27th February 2017 until 11:59 PM on 6th April 2018 or when the works has been completed, whichever is the sooner. The prohibition will apply only during such times and to such extent as shall from time to time be indicated by traffic signs.
- The prohibitions will not apply in respect of:
 - any vehicle being used for the purposes of those works or for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes;
 - anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform or a person authorised by Transport for London.

Dated this 7th day of February 2017

Mufu Durowoju
Network Impact Management Team Manager, Road Space
Management - Operations,
Transport for London
Palestra, 197 Blackfriars Road, London, SE1 8NJ

MAYOR OF LONDON



TRANSPORT
FOR LONDON

Transport for London Notice

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 THE A501 GLA SIDE ROAD (ENFORD STREET, CITY OF WESTMINSTER) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

- Transport for London hereby gives notice that it intends to make the above named Traffic Order under section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for the purpose specified in paragraph 2. The effect of the Order is summarised in paragraph 3.
- The purpose of the Order to enable construction works to take place on Enford Street.
- The effect of the Order will be to prohibit any vehicle from entering or proceeding on Enford Street between its junctions with Circus Mews and Marylebone Road. Local access will be maintained between its junctions with York Street and Circus Mews. The Order will be effective between the dates of 26th February 2017 and 28th May 2017, every Sunday between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM or when the works has been completed whichever is the sooner. The prohibition will apply only during such times and to such extent as shall from time to time be indicated by traffic signs.
- The prohibitions will not apply in respect of:
 - any vehicle being used for the purposes of those works or for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes;
 - anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform or a person authorised by Transport for London.
- At such times as the prohibition is in force an alternative route will be indicated by traffic signs via York Street, Seymour Street and Gloucester Place onto normal route of travel.

Dated this 7th day of February 2017

Mufu Durowoju
Network Impact Management Team Manager, Road Space
Management - Operations,
Transport for London

MAYOR OF LONDON



TRANSPORT
FOR LONDON

Public Notices

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

SECTION 14(1)

THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (TOWNMEAD ESTATE)

(OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20**

- NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above Order under section 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
- The general effect of the Orders would be to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Townmead Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
- The parking restrictions on the Townmead Estate would continue to operate (without any changes) as follows:
 - the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Saturday 9am - 5pm;
 - every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
 - parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
 - only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or a valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone Z SMART Visitor permit relating to the Townmead Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
 - resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Townmead Estate;
 - resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Townmead Estate;
 - A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
 - where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
- A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders.
- Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:

Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department,

Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU

until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 1st day of February 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle

Chief Transport Planner

Transport and Highways

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

SECTION 14(1)

THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (KIER HARDIE HOUSE ESTATE)

(OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20**

- NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above Order under section 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
- The general effect of the Orders would be to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Kier Hardie House Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
- The parking restrictions on the Kier Hardie House Estate would continue to operate (without any changes) as follows:
 - the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm;
 - every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
 - parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
 - only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or a valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone T SMART Visitor permit relating to the Kier Hardie House Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
 - resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Kier Hardie House Estate;
 - resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Kier Hardie House Estate;
 - A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
 - where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
- A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders.
- Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:

Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department,

Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU

until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 1st day of February 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle

Chief Transport Planner

Transport and Highways

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

SECTION 14(1)

THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (BECKLOW GARDENS ESTATE)

(OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20**

- NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above Order under section 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
- The general effect of the Orders would be to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Becklow Gardens Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
- The parking restrictions on the Becklow Gardens Estate would continue to operate (without any changes) as follows:
 - the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm;
 - every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
 - parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
 - only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or an valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone V SMART Visitor permit relating to the Becklow Gardens Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
 - resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Becklow Gardens Estate;
 - resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Becklow Gardens Estate;
 - A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
 - where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
- A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders.
- Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:

Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department,

Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU

until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 26th of January 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle

Chief Transport Planner

Transport and Highways

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

SECTION 14(1)

THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (BULOW COURT ESTATE)

(OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20**

- NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above Order under section 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
- The general effect of the Orders would be to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Bulow Court Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
- The parking restrictions on the Bulow Court Estate would continue to operate (without any changes) as follows:
 - the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Saturday 9am - 5pm;
 - every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
 - parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
 - only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or a valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone Z SMART Visitor permit relating to the Kier Bulow Court Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
 - resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Bulow Court Estate;
 - resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Bulow Court Estate;
 - A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
 - where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
- A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders.
- Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:

Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department,

Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU

until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 1st day of February 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle

Chief Transport Planner

Transport and Highways

Public Notices

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984****SECTION 14(1)****THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PHILPOT SQUARE ESTATE)
(OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20****

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above Order under section 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
2. The general effect of the Orders would be to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Philpot Square Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
3. The parking restrictions on the Philpot Square Estate would continue to operate (without any changes) as follows:
 - (a) the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Saturday 9am - 5pm;
 - (b) every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
 - (c) parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
 - (d) only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or a valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone Q SMART Visitor permit relating to the Philpot Square Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
 - (f) resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Philpot Square Estate;
 - (g) resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Philpot Square Estate;
 - (h) A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
 - (i) where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
4. A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders.
5. Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:

Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department,
Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU
until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 1st day of February 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984****SECTION 14(1)****THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PLANETREE COURT ESTATE)
(OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20****

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above Order under section 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
2. The general effect of the Orders would be to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Planetree Court Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
3. The parking restrictions on the Planetree Court Estate would continue to operate (without any changes) as follows:
 - (a) the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Saturday 8.30am - 6.30pm;
 - (b) every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
 - (c) parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
 - (d) only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or a valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone A SMART Visitor permit relating to the Planetree Court Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
 - (f) resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Planetree Court Estate;
 - (g) resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Planetree Court Estate;
 - (h) A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
 - (i) where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
4. A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders.
5. Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:

Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department,
Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU
until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 1st day of February 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984****SECTION 14(1)****THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM
(SPRINGVALE HOUSING ESTATE)
(OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20****

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above Order under section 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
2. The general effect of the Orders would be to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Springvale Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
3. The parking restrictions on the Springvale Estate would continue to operate (without any changes) as follows:
 - (a) the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Sunday 9am - 7pm;
 - (b) every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
 - (c) parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
 - (d) only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or a valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone B SMART Visitor permit relating to the Springvale Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
 - (f) resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Springvale Estate;
 - (g) resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Springvale Estate;
 - (h) A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
 - (i) where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
4. A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders.
5. Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:

Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department,
Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU
until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 01st day of February 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984****SECTION 14(1)****THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PHILPOT SQUARE ESTATE)
(OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20****

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above Order under section 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
2. The general effect of the Orders would be to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Philpot Square Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
3. The parking restrictions on the Philpot Square Estate would continue to operate (without any changes) as follows:
 - (a) the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Saturday 9am - 5pm;
 - (b) every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
 - (c) parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
 - (d) only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or a valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone Q SMART Visitor permit relating to the Philpot Square Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
 - (f) resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Philpot Square Estate;
 - (g) resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Philpot Square Estate;
 - (h) A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
 - (i) where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
4. A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders.
5. Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:

Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department,
Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU
until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 1st day of February 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

Public Notices

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

SECTION 14(1)

THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (TOWNMEAD ESTATE) (OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20**

- NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above Order under section 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
- The general effect of the Orders would be to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Townmead Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
- The parking restrictions on the Townmead Estate would continue to operate (without any changes) as follows:
 - the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Saturday 9am - 5pm;
 - every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
 - parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
 - only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or a valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone Z SMART Visitor permit relating to the Townmead Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
 - resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Townmead Estate;
 - resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Townmead Estate;
 - A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
 - where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
- A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders.
- Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:
Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department,
Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU
until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 1st day of February 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

SECTION 14(1)

THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (SULGRAVE GARDENS ESTATE) (OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20**

- NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above Order under section 6, 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
- The general effect of the Orders would be to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Sulgrave Gardens Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
- The parking restrictions on the Sulgrave Gardens Estate would continue to operate (without any changes) as follows:
 - the parking restrictions to operate Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm;
 - every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
 - parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
 - only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or a valid contractor's parking permit or an activated Zone C SMART Visitor permit relating to the Sulgrave Gardens Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
 - resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Sulgrave Gardens Estate;
 - resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Sulgrave Gardens Estate;
 - A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
 - where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
- A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders.
- Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:
Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department,
Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU
until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 1st day of February 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

VERA PATRICIA RATHBONE (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of St George's Nursing Home, 61 St George's Square, London SW1V 3QR, who died on 20/04/2016, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 15/04/2017, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Rathbone Trust Company Limited,
1 Curzon Street, London W1J 5FB.
Ref: BDL

LIELA HYACINTH ABRAMS (otherwise Mrs Leila Hyacinth Abrams) (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of 52 De Morgan Road, London SW6 2PR, who died on 07/12/2016, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 10/04/2017, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Chorus Law as Attorney for the Personal Representative,
Heron House, Timothy's Bridge Road,
Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 9BX.

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Transport for London Notice

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 THE A3220 GLA ROAD (WARWICK ROAD, ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA)(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC AND STOPPING) ORDER 2017

- Transport for London having consulted Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea hereby gives notice that it has made the above named Traffic Order under section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for the purpose specified in paragraph 2. The effect of the Order is summarised in paragraph 3.
- The purpose of the Order is to enable junction improvement works to take place on A3220 Warwick Road.
- The effect of the Order will be to prohibit any vehicle from:
 - Stopping on Warwick Road between the extended common boundary of Nos. 6 - 8 Warwick Road and the extended common boundary of Nos. 16 - 18 Warwick Road;
 - Entering, exiting, proceeding or stopping on Earl's Court Square between a point 2.5 metres west of the extended eastern building line of No. 49 Earl's Court Square and its junction with Warwick Road;
 - Local access only will be maintained on Earl's Court Square between the extended common boundary of Nos. 31 and 33 Earl's Court Square and a point 2.5 metres west of the extended eastern building line of No. 49 Earl's Court Square;
 - Entering, exiting, proceeding or stopping on Kempsford Gardens between the extended common boundary of Nos. 45 and 47 Kempsford Gardens and its junction with Warwick Road;
 - Local access only will be maintained on Kempsford Gardens between its junction with Old Brompton Road and the extended common boundary of Nos. 45 and 47 Kempsford Gardens;
 - Closing the pedestrian crossing outside St Cuthbert with St Matthias C of E Primary School;

The Order will also,

- Suspend the one way operation on Earl's Court Square between the extended common boundary of Nos. 31 and 33 Earl's Court Square and a point 2.5 metres west of the extended eastern building line of No. 49 Earl's Court Square to make it two way operational;
- Suspend the one way operation on Kempsford between the extended common boundary of Nos. 45 and 47 Kempsford Gardens and its junction with Warwick Road to make it two way operational

The Order will be effective between the 09.00 AM on the 11th February 2017 until 09.00 PM on the 30th April 2017 or when the works have been completed whichever is the sooner. The prohibition will apply only during such times and to such extent as shall from time to time be indicated by traffic signs.

- The prohibitions will not apply in respect of:
 - any vehicle being used for the purposes of those works or fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes;
 - anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform or a person authorised by Transport for London.
- At such times as the prohibition is in force an alternative route will be indicated by traffic signs:
For vehicles wishing to enter westbound Warwick Road from Earl's Court Square (Earl's Court Road, Old Brompton Road onto normal route of travel);
For vehicles wishing to enter westbound Warwick Road from Kempsford Gardens (Old Brompton Road onto normal route of travel);
For pedestrians wishing to use the crossing facilities outside St Cuthbert with St Matthias C of E Primary School, at junction of Warwick Road and Kempsford Gardens to normal route of travel;

Dated this 7th day of February 2017

Mufu Durowaju

Network Impact Management Team - Manager,
Road Space Management – Operations Transport for London
Palestra, 197 Blackfriars Road, London, SE1 8NJ

MAYOR OF LONDON



LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

SECTION 14(1)

(FULHAM PALACE ROAD) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate Thames Water works to be carried out in the above named road, it made an Order the effect of which prohibits southbound vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed in a southbound direction, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Fulham Palace Road between 73 Fulham Palace Road, London SW6 6JB and Yeldham Road.
- An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would not be required.
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order will come into operation on the 13th February 2017 and will be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works are expected to commence on Monday 13th February 2017 and last for 4 days. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 3rd day of February 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

Local Planning Applications London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

I give notice that applications have been made to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham as follows:

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA

**1 Shepherd's Bush Road
London SW6 7NA**

2017/00271/VAR

Variation of conditions 6, 7 and 8 of planning permission ref: 2016/03699/FUL granted 30th November 2016 to allow the parking permit restriction to be applied on the ground floor flat only.

**49 Marville Road London
SW6 7BB**

2017/00246/FUL

Erection of a front and rear roof extension involving an increase in the ridge height; erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition.

**1 Raffles Mews 12 Farm Lane
London SW6 1BN**

2017/00305/FUL

Erection of an additional floor at roof level including the formation of a roof terrace at third floor level to the rear elevation; increasing the height of the third floor roof of back addition.

**37 Kilmaine Road London
SW6 7JU**

2017/00313/FUL

Erection of an additional floor at roof level; erection of rear extensions at ground, first and second floor level; installation of a new window to the side of rear back additions at ground and first floor level; formation of a cycle storage at the front of the property.

**Landmark House
Hammersmith Bridge Road
London W6 9DR**

2017/00172/FUL

Demolition of the two existing office buildings (Class B1) and the erection of a part 6, 12, 28 storey building (including double height ground level public realm) to provide a mixed-use development comprising 14,139sqm GEA hotel (Class C1) including high level public bar/restaurant, offices (Class B1), ground floor retail (Class A1/A3), flexible cultural space at ground and basement level, 2 storey basement level providing car/cycle parking and servicing and associated public realm, landscaping, plant and all enabling and ancillary works.

**835 Fulham Road London
SW6 5HQ**

2017/00279/ADV

Display of an internally illuminated fascia sign on the front elevation. Car Parking Spaces Westfield London Shopping Centre

Ariel Way London

2017/00300/FUL

Change of use of part of the car park at level 20, Zone M4 from Sui Generis (mall circulation / car parking) to Sui Generis use (display and sale of motor vehicles)

**1 - 7 Albion Court Albion
Place London W6 0QT**

2017/00240/FUL

External alterations to include new windows, entrance doors, and Juliet balconies to Blocks 1, 2 and 3; erection of dormer windows at roof level and 2no. new balconies to Block 1; enclosure of existing external covered entrance to Block 3; and creation of refuse bin storage, recycling bin storage and bicycle storage for up to 40no. bikes.

**2 Parsons Gate Mews London
SW6 3BF**

2017/00036/FUL

Erection of an external staircase from ground floor to first floor level at the rear of the property; erection of a pergola overhead above the roof of the existing terrace at first floor level.

**Flat Third Floor 2 Macleise
Road London W14 0PR**

2017/00223/FUL

Formation of a roof terrace at roof level.

**First Floor Salisbury Villas
Carthew Road London**

W6 0DU 2017/00229/FUL

Erection of a rear and side dormer roof extension.

**381 New King's Road London
SW6 4RL**

2017/00143/FUL

Excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the creation of a new basement.

**84 Stamford Brook Road And
Land To Rear Of 84 Stamford
Brook Road London W6 0XN**

2016/05409/FUL

Erection of a single four-bedroom family dwelling to the rear of 84 Stamford Brook Road with car parking and private access gate including associated landscaping and boundary treatment. Refurbishment of the existing building at 84 Stamford Brook including washing the brick skin down, new disabled access to the front and rear of the existing building, new pedestrian and vehicular access gates, refurbished entrance and porch including new metal awning to existing building, new external lighting, new external security cameras in several locations (Revised description).

**58, 60, 62, 66, 68, 70 And
72 Perrers Road London**

W6 0EZ 2017/00193/FUL

Erection of additional floors at roof level to property nos. 58, 60, 62, 66, 68, 70 and 72 Perrers Road.

**Flat G 58 - 60 Harwood Road
London SW6 4PZ**

2017/00269/FUL

Erection of rear extensions at second and third floor level, on top of the existing back addition; formation of roof terraces at third floor level, to the front and rear elevation.

**Flat First And Second Floors
228 Hammersmith Grove
London W6 7HG**

2017/00203/FUL

Erection of a front and rear roof extension involving an increase in the ridge height; installation of a new door to replace the existing door at first floor level, replacement of existing window with a new window at second floor level, installation of Juliet balconies at first and second floor level to the rear elevation; formation of a bin and cycle storage at the front of the property; paving of part of the front garden; conversion of the first, second and third floor level to provide 1 x one bedroom and 2 x two bedroom self-contained flats.

**Flat A First Floor
14 Inglethorpe Street London
SW6 6NT**

2017/00266/FUL

Erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; relocation of existing French doors and Juliet balcony on the existing rear roof extension; installation of an additional rooflight to the front roof slope; and installation of a rooflight to the flat roof of the main roof.

**FOR CONSERVATION AREA
CONSENT (DEMOLITION
WORK) FOR LISTED BUILDING
CONSENT FOR DEVELOPMENT
WHICH MAY AFFECT THE
SETTING OR CONTEXT OF A
LISTED BUILDING**

**4 Winchendon Road London
SW6 5DR**

2017/00231/FUL

Erection of a front roof extension.

**691 Fulham Road London
SW6 5UJ**

2017/00214/FUL

Conversion of the existing dwellinghouse into 2 x one bedroom and 1 x two bedroom self-contained flats; erection of a single storey plus-mezzanine floor level office (Class B1) building in the rear garden; installation of a new door to the side of the main building; erection of new external staircase from upper ground floor to lower ground floor level, formation of bin stores beneath the front staircase and erection of a replacement

boundary wall with railings on top at the front of the property. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 28th February 2017. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

**THE TOWN AND COUNTRY
PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT
MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)
ORDER 2013**

**NOTICES UNDER
REGULATION 13**

**445 - 448 Sullivan Court
London SW6 3BX**

2017/00249/ADV

I give notice that London Borough Hammersmith Fulham is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Installation of 4no internally illuminated fascia signs to the front elevation.

**415 North End Road London
SW6 1NS**

2017/00140/FUL

I give notice that Mrs Gilda Aslan is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Erection of an additional floor at roof level; erection of a part one, part two storey rear extension at first and second floor level; installation of a new window to the side elevation at second floor level; conversion of first, second and third floor level from 1 x one bedroom and 2 x studio flats into 1 x studio, 2 x one bedroom and 1 x two bedroom self-contained flats.

**Garage Adjacent
2A Harbledown Road London
2017/00286/FUL**

I give notice that Mr Matthew Cox is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Demolition of the existing single storey garage and erection of a two storey plus-basement single family dwellinghouse.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 28th February 2017.

See below for ways of commenting on applications.

Signed: **NIGEL PALLACE**

Executive Director for Transport and Technical Services

on behalf of HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL

You can view applications, make comments and monitor their progress on our website:

www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning. Click on the 'Planning Online' logo on the Planning Home Page.

You can also E-mail comments to: plancomments@lbhf.gov.uk

You can also inspect details of applications using computers at our office

**RECEPTION FIRST
FLOOR HAMMERSMITH TOWN
HALL EXTENSION KING
STREET W6**

between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.

If you want to make comments on applications please E-mail them through our website or post them to

**DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT
SERVICE ENVIRONMENT
SERVICES DEPARTMENT
TOWN HALL KING STREET
W6 9JU**

by the date shown above.

Please include the application reference number and the name of the planning officer. We will try to consider any representations received after the date indicated but this cannot be guaranteed so please reply promptly.

For initial enquiries call our information and reception service on **020 8753 1081** or **020 8753 1082**.

lbhf.gov.uk/planning

Online

Send us your comments about planning applications via our website: www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning

Public Notices

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

SECTION 14(1) (KING STREET)

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate Thames Water works to be carried out in the above named road; it intends to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit heavy goods vehicles from using a section of the above named road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any heavy goods vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of King Street between its junctions with Queen Caroline Street and Cambridge Grove.
- An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via Shepherd's Bush Road and Goldhawk Road.
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order would come into operation on the 25th February 2017 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- The works are expected to take place on Saturday 25th February 2017 from 8am and last until 27th February 2017 at 5pm. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 2nd day of 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle

Chief Transport Planner

Transport and Highways

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

SECTION 14(1) (LANGTHORNE STREET)

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate carriageway repair works to be carried out in the above named road; it intends to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in various sections of Langthorne Street between its junction with Fulham Palace Road and Woodlawn Road.
- An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be via Fulham Palace Road, Kenyon Street and Woodlawn Road.
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order would come into operation on the 16th February 2017 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works would be expected to commence on Thursday 16th February 2017 and last for 2 days. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 2nd day of February 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle

Chief Transport Planner

Transport and Highways

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

SECTION 14(1) (SHEPHERDS BUSH ROAD)

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate Gas Main works to be carried out in the above named road; it intends to make an Order the effect of which would temporarily suspend the northbound bus lane in a section of the above named road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, the northbound bus lane on Shepherds Bush Road, between Nos. 210 and 232 Shepherds Bush Road, shall be suspended.
- An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would not be required.
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order would come into operation on the 17th February 2017 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works would be expected to commence on Friday 17th February 2017 and last for 4 days. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 27th day of January 2017

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle

Chief Transport Planner

Transport and Highways

Email your sports news, reports and pictures to Tony McDonald at sport@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LONDON WEEKLY NEWS

sport

Hectic Holloway rings changes at Rangers



QUEENS Park Rangers may not have made much, if any, progress since Ian Holloway returned to the club three months ago – a record of won four, drawn two and lost nine is nothing to shout about – but at least this eccentric character cannot be accused of failing to shuffle the pack, *writes Tony McDonald.*

In a hectic period of activity, Holloway swiftly recalled Michael Doughty and Darnell Furling from their loan spells at Swindon Town, while Ryan Manning was promoted from the academy into the first-team squad.

Five new signings – Kazenga LuaLua, Sean Goss, Luke Freeman, Matt Smith and Ravel Morrison – were brought in during the January transfer window, while Polish winger Pawel Wszolek's loan deal from Hellas Verona has been turned into a permanent move.

Tjaronn Chery, Seb Polter, Sandro, Ben Gladwin, Ariel Borysiuk and Nasser El Khayati all headed out of the Loftus Road exit door during January, either on loan or permanently.

Holloway said: "I have been so happy with the business we have done during this window. I honestly think you would struggle to have a better one. But in terms of the ins and the outs, I am pleased.

"You get situations, for whatever reason, where players want to leave. When that happens, it's important that you move them on.

"I didn't think we would be able to get the group I wanted together as quickly as we have, in terms of players here who can play in the way I want us to. The fact we have been able to do it in the time that we have is fantastic."

LuaLua and Goss made their debuts as substitutes late on in last Wednesday's 2-2 draw at Newcastle United, while Smith and Morrison – who had a loan spell with Rangers when they were promoted to the top flight in 2014, scoring six goals in 17 appearances – came off the bench in the closing stages of Saturday's bitterly frustrating 1-0 defeat at Blackburn Rovers.

All eyes will be on how Holloway handles the mercurial 24-year-old Morrison, on loan until the end of this season, who was released by Manchester United and West Ham United before he moved to Italy for an 18-month spell with Lazio that brought only eight appearances and none this season.

Morrison has recently been training with Wigan Athletic but Holloway has now gambled on a player who still has

Popular Pole Pawel Wszolek is staying at Loftus Road

Picture: Rob Newell



a lot to prove. There is no doubting the Mancunian's ability as an attacking, creative midfielder of genuine talent. It's his attitude and application that are under scrutiny.

Holloway will certainly be hoping Morrison performs better than referee's assistant Tony Peart. With QPR having dominated for long spells, Conor Washington's perfectly legitimate goal in the 61st minute appeared to have given Holloway's side the lead.

But while video replays showed that the Northern Ireland international's looping header from six yards struck the underside of the crossbar before crossing the goal-line, the goal wasn't given. After Peart kept his flag down, referee Tony Harrington had no option but to play on.

To rub salt into Rangers' gaping wounds, Rovers' Sam Gallagher then inflicted the cruellest of defeats on the visitors late on. The on-loan Southampton striker slotted from a left-wing cross in second-half stoppage time to hand the hosts a rare victory they scarcely deserved.

A few days earlier, QPR had themselves benefited from a huge slice of luck, when a last-minute headed own goal by Newcastle defender Ciaran Clark had gifted the West Lon-

doners a 2-2 draw and denied the Magpies a return to top spot.

But that moment of unexpected, almost comedic, good fortune at St James' Park was not in Holloway's thinking when he justly complained of injustice at Ewood Park.

"My lads feel really aggrieved," he groaned. "Conor was almost inconsolable in there (the dressing room). He thought he had three in three – he swears the ball went over the line. It was clearly a goal – and who knows what would have happened after that, had we got it?"

Holloway pointed out that while goal-line technology is in operation at every Premier League game, for some ridiculous reason the second tier does not yet embrace this facility (nor does Spain's Primera Division).

"In the Premier League, it would have finished 1-1, because that would have been a goal," he continued. "If we'd have got three points today, we'd be halfway up the league, so it's difficult to take.

"If the linesman can't see it, he can't give it. So he didn't give it. How wrong is that? The referees' assessor knew it was a goal – he could see it from his seat.

"Referees don't deliberately do the wrong things. If you're asking them to do a job, let

them be professional. You don't even need a (goal-line) camera. Let the fourth official watch it and make a call.

"It won't delay things – it will just make it more accurate. Surely that's what we all want?"

Holloway's side have drawn two and lost two of their last four matches, following three consecutive wins. "We've got to keep going, like we did when we lost six games in a row," he said.

"I thought the performance was excellent. Yes, we could have finished things off better but I think the defending was much brighter and sharper. We pressed, we closed.

"We were doing ever so well, right up until they scored in the last minute, although I'm sure that won't be what's talked about.

"We deserved at least a point – probably more so than at Newcastle in midweek.

"My boys are a bit down. But I'm not – I'm uplifted."

QPR face another tough test when they entertain high-flying Huddersfield Town at Shepherd's Bush on Saturday. The Terriers have won eight out of their last 10 in the Championship and lost only once, to Sheffield Wednesday, since November.

● QPR and Fulham have been fined £40,000 and £36,000 respectively by the FA for incidents during the West London derby at Loftus Road on January 21.

The respective benches, along with several players, were involved in a 91st-minute clash, and Fulham players Tom Cairney and Chris Martin and QPR defender Joel Lynch were all booked by referee Keith Stroud following an off-the-ball incident in the 94th minute.

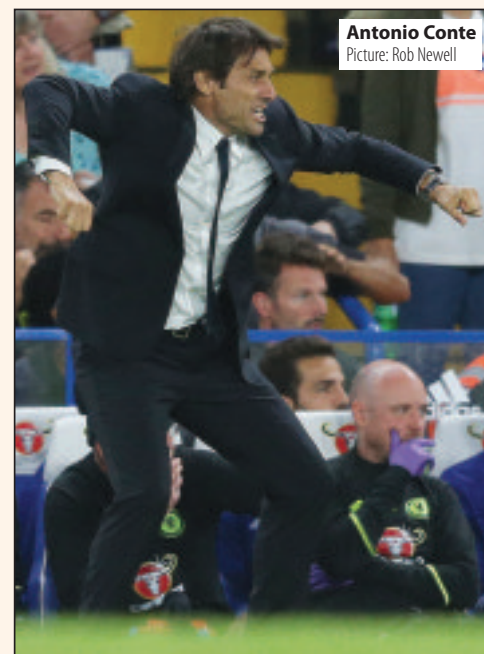
At an independent hearing, both clubs admitted two breaches of FA rules.

Rangers' coach Marc Birtcham and Fulham medical manager Marco Cesarini have each been fined £2,000 for misconduct.

Rangers and Fulham were charged with failing to "ensure their players and/or officials conducted themselves in an orderly fashion".

● FULHAM'S progress to the FA Cup fifth round means their Championship match at Bristol City has been deferred by four days, to Wednesday, February 22 (7.45pm).

It was originally scheduled for the previous Saturday but, instead, Whites will now host Tottenham Hotspur in a mouth-watering tie at Craven Cottage on Sunday, February 19. The game kicks-off at 2pm and will be shown live on BBC One.



Antonio Conte
Picture: Rob Newell

Conte: I put 130 per cent into my work

From Page 32

a Euro cup (2000), and you must know my anger in every game, the will to fight, the will to win, because I know in my career I am lucky to win a lot – but I lost a lot."

While he is remaining incredibly positive, he has at times this season focused on the negative.

"We had a moment," he said, "when I told the players and underlined the negative situation. If you remember, after the Liverpool and Arsenal defeats I said very clearly that we must show to be a great team on the pitch in every game, not only because your name is Chelsea.

"After the two defeats a lot of things changed. And now I can talk only of positive things and I hope this continues because it means that we are doing something important this season."

Conte went on to explain what it takes to win the title: "You need, for sure, good players with good talent, but also to be a team.

"To be able to put this talent into the team, to create a good organisation, to create a team where every single player knows his position, knows his situation with the ball, without the ball. Also, to create a family spirit between us. I'm pleased for this because in these six months, we are building something important in this club.

And the ripped trousers?

"I live my work with great intensity," he explained. "Because I put not 100 per cent but 120 or 130 per cent into my work. I put in passion, my emotion. I try to justify this to my players. I live the game with great intensity and sometimes in football, when there are very important moments, to keep my passion and enthusiasm is very difficult. It's good to share these emotions with my players, my staff and, sometimes, also with the fans. I think I deserve this for the passion that I put in every moment of my life into football."

ION Sunday, Chelsea's under-23 development squad beat Reading 2-0. An own goal and a strike by Ike Ugbo gave Adi Viveash's team the three points that keep them fourth in the Premier League 2 table.

ITHE previous day the under-18s defeated Reading 2-0 to extend their unbeaten run to 15 matches.

Goals from George McEachran and Callum Hudson-Odoi clinched victory against second-placed Royals that puts the young Blues eight points clear at the top of U18 Premier League South with three games remaining.

Three points next week away to Leicester City will see Jody Morris' side retain the title for a third successive season.

LOCAL Chinese fans could get to see Diego Costa play "live" even if he remains with Chelsea rather than succumbs to the lure of Far East riches next season.

That's because Chelsea will face Arsenal in the Bird's Nest stadium in Beijing in a pre-season friendly on July 22.

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Eden Hazard's brilliant solo goal was the highlight of another superb win for Chelsea that strengthens their position in the Premier League title race

Picture: Rob Newell



Hazard issues warning

Burnley beware of Blues' brilliant Belgian midfielder



This week at
STAMFORD BRIDGE

By Paul Lagan

GIVEN the sensational form Eden Hazard produced in Chelsea's convincing win against Arsenal on Saturday, Burnley players and their fans must be quaking in their boots at the thought of his and Blues' arrival at Turf Moor on Sunday (1.30pm).

Belgium midfield maestro Hazard, 26, is rapidly becoming the driving force once again as the West Londoners rocket nine points clear of second-placed Tottenham Hotspur at the top of the Premier League.

The nature of the goal he scored eight minutes after half-time, the second in an emphatic 3-1 win, was mesmeric – a brilliant combination of power, strength, guile and sublime finishing.

Just how good was it? Hazard collected the ball just inside his own half, raced forward, shrugged off a rugged challenge by Francis Coquelin like he was an irritating flea, dropped his shoulders a couple of times, twisting the blood of defender Laurent Koscielny, before slipping the ball past former Chelsea favourite Petr Cech.

"It's one of the best I've scored," he said. "But it's up to the fans to choose. In this style, it's one of the best but I have scored with my left foot in the Europa League and then there was a goal against Manchester United in the FA Cup. I scored a few good goals. But it is always good to score this kind of goal in a big game."

What did the players say afterwards? "Congratulations for what you did," he said. "But for all the players it was the same. It's not just about me. OK, I

scored a good goal but it's all about the team."

There is a sense of calmness about Hazard's performances which reflect his confidence in his ability, his fitness and the willingness to follow the instructions of head coach Antonio Conte.

So what has Conte asked of him this season?

"He asks a lot of me. When we don't have the ball, he wants me to press, to defend. And when we have the ball, to counter-attack, to be free. Or I do a bit of magic, like against Arsenal, a job for me or for my team-mates, I try to do that."

"On the defensive side, during situations where I need to close inside, I chase the guy. It's a small thing but it can change a lot at the end of the game."

Hazard was the club's player-of-the-year in 2014-15. Is he playing better now?

"I think we are in better form as a team," he said modestly. "It's not just me. I know that a couple of years ago I was on fire. Maybe I can score more goals this season. Two years ago I finished with maybe 13, 14, I don't remember. We have a lot of games to play, we will see."

"With experience, I think I'm a better player."

At this time of the season two years ago, Chelsea went defensive to win the league under Jose Mourinho. Is this team more attack-minded?

"Yes, but against Liverpool (in mid-week, where they earned a 1-1 draw at Anfield) it was a little bit the same as two years ago. We sat back, we were waiting for the team to get the ball. But I think we should play in this situation like we did against Arsenal every game. We have to play, we have the players, we don't want to stay back and wait for the counter-attack. We have the players, so we need to use this more."

Marcos Alonso gave Chelsea the lead

against title rivals Arsenal after 13 minutes. And after Hazard's brilliant solo strike, Cesc Fabregas capped a fine win with the third five minutes from time. Olivier Giroud's goal in time added on was irrelevant to the outcome.

Next up for the league leaders is Burnley, who have a good home record, but Hazard is looking past the Clarets and the finishing line with the title in the bag.

"We are in a good place," he said. "We have been first for a few months. We want to give the trophy to the fans but in football you never know. It's not always the same story – we could lose a game. An opponent could have more confidence than before and win games. We have a lot of games to play and I hope we can continue like this."

"Against Arsenal, the players, fans, manager, staff, we all enjoyed it. We wanted to win this kind of game. It is difficult to keep the same level every week. Now we will rest for two days, then train to be ready for Burnley."

Hazard must be the most kicked player in the Premier League. But rather than be upset or unsettled by such physical treatment, he has turned it into a compliment and a positive thing.

"Yes, it is my motivation. It's true," he said. "When I get a lot of kicks I feel like I'm really in the game. When people don't touch me, it means I'm no good."

"I'm not saying I like to be kicked but it's good for me to be in the game."

"From the moment I get the ball, I try to do something. Sometimes in the past, I don't touch the ball for 20-30 minutes. But now I try to touch the ball all the time and play my football for my team-mates."

It's Hazard's team ethic that brings a smile to Conte's face. The Italian ripped his trousers as he threw himself into the adoring clutches of the Chelsea fans

when Hazard notched that decisive goal against Arsenal.

It's the sense of togetherness that is becoming the signature theme of this Chelsea side.

Conte has won league titles as a player and as a coach but he has lost them as well. It's that contrasting experience, the need to maintain intensity and blow away any creeping sense of complacency, that is the pivotal message he is giving his players and anyone else who cares to listen.

"When I played for Juventus, I lost a championship and won a championship," he said.

"But the games at the end of the season were fewer."

"When we lost I think it was psychological. When you arrive at this point, you think that everything is simple but it's not true."

"You can see a lot of examples in recent games – Swansea beat Liverpool and Watford beat Arsenal. For this reason we must prepare for every game with great attention."

Is he in a better position, as a manager, to cope with the pressure and stress than, say, Jurgen Klopp (Liverpool) or Mauricio Pochettino (Spurs)?

"I don't know," he said. "I think every manager has their own experience. About this situation, I have a great experience, not only as a manager but as a player. When you play 13 years at Juventus, you have a lot of these situations. I won five titles as a footballer but a lot of times I arrived in second place. When you arrive in second place, it's not good. People remember only those who win."

Does he remember the second places more?

"Yeah, I can talk with you and bring a lot of examples with the national team. I lost two finals, a World Cup (1994) and

Ryan
Fredericks
was sent off
in Fulham's
defeat at
Birmingham
Picture: Rob Newell



Wounded Whites can worry Wigan

Focus on Craven Cottage

FULHAM will be expected to get their promotion push back on track when they host Championship strugglers Wigan Athletic at Craven Cottage on Saturday.

Whites followed their 2-0 victory at Burton Albion last week with a 1-0 defeat at Birmingham City on Saturday – Blues' first win under their new manager, ex-Chelsea idol Gianfranco Zola, at the 10th attempt.

But Wigan, whose mini revival was halted by a 1-0 home loss to Sheffield Wednesday last weekend, are second from bottom. They have won only two matches at the DW Stadium since Fulham shared a goal-less draw there last September and possess the worst home record – 12 points from 14 matches – in the second tier.

The suspended Ryan Fredericks misses the trip to the North West after being sent off at Birmingham for a needless late tackle on Craig Gardner, 10 yards inside the Brum half, in the 68th minute.

Seven minutes later, Lukas Jutkiewicz made the visitors pay for some poor finishing by sliding in to convert a low left-wing cross from Cheick Keita. Jutkiewicz had spurned a golden first-half chance to put his side ahead when he headed against the bar from four yards out, and David Button was by far the busier of the keepers.

Fulham head coach Slavisa Jokanovic was right not to blame the result solely on the reckless actions of his right-back, who received a straight red card.

"I'm disappointed. Birmingham were more solid, they won all the second balls," he said. "We didn't connect or combine well enough. We didn't create so many things."

"Ryan Fredericks was an extra situation that killed us and we didn't find enough power to change the game."

"We arrived here with intent and believed we could have made a different game and win the points. But in the end it wasn't our best game."

"Credit to Birmingham. We had problems with their long balls. I cannot complain, the result was fair."

"I cannot complain about the efforts of my team either. They tried, they pushed hard, they wanted to win the game. But it's simple, we didn't play a good game."

Fulham gave a debut to their new signing Gohi Cyriac, who joins on loan from Belgian Pro League side KV Oostende until the end of the season. The 26-year-old Ivory Coast striker came on as sub to replace Sone Aluko 12 minutes from the end but was unable to prevent Birmingham from recording their second 1-0 Championship win over their West London opponents this season and their first double at Fulham's expense since 1991-92.

Birmingham really ought to have killed the game off long before Floyd Ayite missed Whites' best chance of the game, wastefully blazing his shot wide of the near post from the angle of the six-yard box.

Jokanovic and Fulham can take heart from the fact that they still have 15 more points in the bag than at the same stage of last season.

"We had a setback," he said. "We're not happy but there are 51 points in front of us. Nothing is over and we are going to be ready for the Wigan game."

Tony McDonald

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